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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Throughout the year since our last meeting, the country has been eminently prosperous in all its material interests. The general health has been excellent, our harvests have been abundant, and plenty smiles throughout the land. Our commerce and manufactures have been prosecuted with energy and industry, and have yielded fair and ample returns. In short, no nation in the tide of time has ever presented a spectacle of greater material prosperity than we have done until within a very recent period.

Why is it, then, that discontent now so extensively prevails, and the Union of the States, which is the source of all these blessings, is threatened with destruction? The long-continued and intemperate interference of the Northern people with the question of slavery in the Southern States has at length produced its natural effects. The different sections of the Union are now arrayed against each other, and the time has arrived, so much dreaded by the Father of his Country, when hostile geographical parties have been formed. I have long foreseen and often forewarned my countrymen of the now impending danger. This does not proceed solely from the claim on the part of Congress or the territorial legislatures to exclude slavery from the Territories, nor from the efforts of different States to defeat the execution of the fugitive slave law. All or any of these evils might have been endured by the South without danger to the Union, (as others have been,) in the hope that time and reflection might apply the remedy. The immediate peril arises not so much from these causes as from the fact that the incessant and violent agitation of the slavery question throughout the North for the last quarter of a century, has at length produced its malign influence on the slaves, and inspired them with vague notions of freedom. Hence a sense of security no longer exists around the family altar. This feeling of peace at home has given place to apprehensions of servile insurrection. Many a matron throughout the South retires at night in dread of what may befall herself and her children before the morning. Should this apprehension of domestic danger, whether real or imaginary, extend and intensify itself until it shall pervade the masses of the Southern people, then disunion will become inevitable. Self-preservation is the first law of nature, and has been implanted in the heart of man by his Creator for the wisest purpose; and no political union, however fraught with blessings and benefits in all other respects, can long continue, if the necessary consequence be to render the homes and the firesides of nearly half the parties to it habitually and hopelessly insecure. Sooner or later the bonds of such a Union must be severed. It is my conviction that this fatal period has not yet arrived; and my prayer to God is that He would preserve the Constitution and the Union throughout all generations.

But let us take warning in time, and remove the cause of danger. It cannot be denied that, for five and twenty years, the agitation at the North, against slavery in the South, has been incessant. In 1835 pictorial hand-bills, and inflammatory appeals, were circulated extensively throughout the South, of a character to excite the passions of the slaves; and, in the language of General Jackson, "to stimulate them to insurrection, and produce all the horrors of a servile war." This agitation has ever since been continued by the public press, by the proceedings of State and county conventions, and by abolition sermons and lectures. The time of Congress has been occupied in violent speeches on this never-ending subject; and appeals in pamphlet and other forms, endorsed by distinguished names, have been sent forth from this central point and spread broadcast over the Union.

How easy would it be for the American people to settle the slavery question forever, and to restore peace and harmony to this distracted country.

They, and they alone, can do it. All that is necessary to accomplish the object, and all for which the slave States have ever contended, is to be let alone, and permitted to manage their domestic institutions in their own way. As sovereign States, they, and they alone, are responsible before God and the world for the slavery existing among them. For this, the people of the North are not more responsible, and have no more right so interfere, than with similar institutions in Russia or in Brazil. Upon their good sense and patriotic forebearance I confess I still greatly rely. Without their aid, it is beyond the power of any President, no matter what may be his own political proclivities, to restore peace and harmony among the States. Wisely limited and restrained as is his power, under our Constitution and laws, he alone can accomplish but little, for good or for evil, on such a momentous question.

And this brings me to observe that the election of any one of our fellow-citizens to the office of President does not of itself afford just cause for dissolving the Union. This is more especially true if his election has been effected by a mere plurality, and not a majority, of the people, and has resulted from transient and temporary causes, which may probably never again occur. In order to justify a resort to revolutionary resistance, the Federal Government must be guilty of "a deliberate, palpable, and dangerous exercise" of powers not granted by the Constitution. The late presidential election, however, has been held in strict conformity with its express provisions. How, then, can the result justify a revolution to destroy this very Constitution? Reason, justice, a regard for the Constitution, all require that we shall wait for some overt and dangerous act on the part of the President elect before resorting to such a remedy.

It is said, however, that the antecedents of the President elect have been sufficient to justify the fears of the South that he will attempt to invade their Constitutional rights. But are such apprehensions of contingent danger in the future sufficient to justify the immediate destruction of the noblest system of government ever devised by mortals? From the very nature of his office, and its high responsibilities, he must necessarily be conservative. The stern duty of administering the vast and complicated concerns of this Government affords in itself a guarantee that he will not attempt any violation of a clear constitutional right. After all, he is no more than the chief executive officer of the Government. His province is not to make, but to execute, the laws; and it is a remarkable fact in our history, that notwithstanding the repeated efforts of the anti-slavery party, no single act has ever passed Congress, unless we may possibly except the Missouri Compromise, impairing, in the slightest degree, the rights of the South to their property in slaves. And it may also be observed, judging from present indications, that no probability exists of the passage of such an act, by a majority of both Houses, either in the present or the next Congress. Surely, under these circumstances, we ought to be restrained from present action by the precept of Him who spake as never man spoke, that "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." The day of evil may never come, unless we shall rashly bring it upon ourselves.

It is alleged as one cause for immediate secession that the Southern States are denied equal rights with the other States in the common Territories. But by what authority are these denied? Not by Congress, which has never passed, and I believe never will pass, any act to exclude slavery from these Territories; and certainly not by the Supreme Court, which has solemnly decided that slaves are property, and, like all other property, their owners have a right to take them into the common Territories, and hold them there under the protection of the Constitution.

So far, then, as Congress is concerned, the objection is not to anything they have already done, but to what they may do hereafter. It will surely be admitted that this apprehension of future danger is no good reason for an immediate dissolution of the Union. It is true that the territorial legislature of Kansas, on the 23d of February, 1860, passed in great haste an act, over the veto of the governor, declaring that slavery "is and shall be, forever prohibited in this Territory." Such an act, however, plainly violating the rights of property secured by the Constitution, will surely be declared void by the judiciary whenever it shall be presented in a legal form.

Only three days after my inauguration the Supreme Court of the U. S. solemnly adjudged that this power did not exist in a territorial legislature. Yet such has been the factious temper of the times that the correctness of this decision has been extensively impugned before the people, and the question has given rise to angry political conflicts throughout the country. Those who have appealed from this judgment of our highest constitutional tribunal to popular assemblies would, if they could, invest a territorial legislature with power to annul the sacred rights of property. This power Congress is expressly forbidden by the Federal Constitution to exercise. Every State legislature in the Union is forbidden by its own constitution to exercise it. It cannot be exercised in any State except by the people in their highest sovereign capacity when framing or amending their State constitution. In like manner, it can only be exercised by the people of a Territory represented in a convention of delegates for the purpose of framing a constitution preparatory to admission as a State into the Union Then, and not until then, are they invested with power to decide the question whether slavery shall or shall not exist within their limits. This is an act of sovereign authority, and not of subordinate territorial legislation. Were it otherwise, then indeed would the equality of the States in the Territories be destroyed, and the rights of property in slaves would depend, not upon the guarantees of the Constitution, but upon the shifting majorities of an irresponsible territorial legislature. Such a doctrine, from its intrinsic unsoundness, cannot long influence any considerable portion of our people, much less can it afford a good reason for a dissolution of the Union.

The most palpable violations of constitutional duty which have yet been committed consist in the acts of different State legislatures to defeat the execution of the fugitive slave law. It ought to be remembered, however, that for these acts, neither Congress nor any President can justly be held responsible. Having been passed in violation of the Federal Constitution, they are therefore null and void. All the courts, both State and national, before whom the question has arisen, have from the beginning declared the fugitive slave law to be constitutional. The single exception is that of a State court in Wisconsin; and this has not only been reversed by the proper appellate tribunal, but has met with such universal reprobation that there can be no danger from it as a precedent. The validity of this law has been established over and over again by the Supreme Court of the United States with perfect unanimity. It is founded upon an express provision of the Constitution, requiring that fugitive slaves who escape from service in one State to another shall be "delivered up" to their masters. Without this provision, it is a well-known historical fact that the Constitution itself could never have been adopted by the Convention. In one form or other under the acts of 1793 and 1850, both being substantially the same, the fugitive-slave law has been the law of the land from the days of Washington until the present moment. Here, then, a clear case is presented, in which it will be the duty of the next President, as it has been my own, to act with vigor in executing this supreme law against the conflicting enactments of State legislatures. Should he fail in the performance of this high duty, he will then have manifested a disregard of the Constitution and laws, to the great injury of the people of nearly one-half of the States of the Union. But are we to presume in advance that he will thus violate his duty? This would be at war with every principle of justice and of Christian charity. Let us wait for the overt act. The fugitive-slave law has been carried into execution in every contested case since the commencement of the present administration; though often, it is to be regretted, with great loss and inconvenience to the master, and with considerable expense to the government. Let us trust that the State legislatures will repeal their unconstitutional and obnoxious enactments. Unless this shall be done without unnecessary delay, it is impossible for any human power to save the Union.

The Southern States, standing on the basis of the Constitution, have a right to demand this act of justice from the States of the North. Should it be refused, then the Constitution, to which all the States are parties, will have been wilfully violated by one portion of them in a provision essential to the domestic security and happiness of the remainder. In that event, the injured States, after having first used all peaceful and constitutional means to obtain redress, would be justified in revolutionary resistance to the gov't of the Union.

I have purposely confined my remarks to revolutionary resistance, because it has been claimed within the last few years that any State, whenever this shall be its sovereign will and pleasure, may secede from the Union, in accordance with the Constitution, and without any violation of the Constitutional rights of the other members of the Confederacy. That as each became parties to the Union by the vote of its own people assembled in Convention, so any one of them may retire from the Union in a similar manner by the vote of such a convention.

In order to justify secession as a constitutional remedy it must be on the principle that the Federal Government is a mere voluntary association of States, to be dissolved at pleasure by any one of the contracting parties. If this be so, the Confederacy is a rope of sand, to be penetrated and dissolved by the first adverse wave of public opinion in any of the States. In this manner our thirty-three States may resolve themselves into as many petty, jarring, and hostile republics, each one retiring from the Union, without responsibility, whenever any sudden excitement might impel them to such a course. By this process a Union might be entirely broken into fragments in a few weeks, which cost our forefathers many years of toil, privation, and blood to establish.

Such a principle is wholly inconsistent with the history as well as the character of the Federal Constitution. After it was framed, with the greatest deliberation and care, it was submitted to conventions of the people of the several States for ratification. Its provisions were discussed at length in these bodies, composed of the first men of the country. Its opponents contended that it conferred powers upon the Federal Government dangerous to the rights of the States, whilst its advocates maintained that under a fair construction of the instrument there was no foundation for such apprehensions. In that mighty struggle between the first intellects of this or any other country, it never occurred to any individual, either among its opponents or advocates, to assert, or even to intimate, that their efforts were all vain labor, because the moment that any State felt herself aggrieved, she might secede from the Union. What a crushing argument would this have proved against those who dreaded that the rights of the States would be endangered by the Constitution. The truth is, that it was not until many years after the origin of the Federal Government that such a proposition was first advanced. It was then met and refuted by the conclusive arguments of Gen Jackson, who in his message of 16th Jan., 1833, transmitting the nullifying ordinance of S. C. to Congress, employs the following language: "The right of the people of a single State to absolve themselves at will, and without the consent of the other States, from their most solemn obligations, and hazard the liberty and happiness of the millions composing this Union, cannot be acknowledged. Such authority is believed to be utterly repugnant both to the principles upon which the General Government is constituted and to the objects which it was expressly formed to attain."

It is not pretended that any clause in the Constitution gives countenance to such a theory. It is altogether founded upon inference, not from any language contained in the instrument itself, but from the sovereign character of the several States by which it was ratified. But is it beyond the power of a State, like an individual, to yield a portion of its sovereign rights to secure the remainder? In the language of Mr. Madison, who has been called the father of the Constitution: "It was formed by the States—that is, by the people in each of the States, acting in their highest sovereign capacity; and formed consequently by the same authority which formed the State constitutions."

"Nor is the gov't of the United States, created by the Constitution, less a gov't in the strict sense of the term, within the sphere of its powers, than the gov'ts created by the constitutions of the States are, within their several spheres. It is, like them, organized into legislative, executive, and judiciary departments. It operates, like them, directly on persons and things; and, like them, it has at command a physical force for executing the powers committed to it."

It was intended to be perpetual, and not to be annulled at the pleasure of any one of the contracting parties. The old articles of confederation were entitled "Articles of confederation and Perpetual Union between the States;" and by the 13th article it is expressly declared that "the articles of this Confederation shall be inviolably observed by every State, and the Union shall be perpetual." The preamble to the Constitution of the United States, having express reference to the articles of Confederation, recites that it was established "in order to form a more perfect union." And yet it is contended that this "more perfect union" does not include the essential attribute of perpetuity.

But that the Union was designed to be perpetual appears conclusively from the nature and extent of the powers conferred by the Constitution on the Federal Gov't. These powers embrace the very highest attributes of national sovereignty. They place both the sword and the purse under its control. Congress has power to make war, and to make peace; to raise and support armies and navies, and to conclude treaties with foreign gov'ts. It is invested with the power to coin money, and to regulate the value thereof, and to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States. It is not necessary to enumerate the other high powers which have been conferred upon the Federal gov't. In order to carry the enumerated powers into effect, Congress possesses the exclusive right to lay and collect duties on imports, and in common with the States to lay and collect all other taxes.

But the Constitution has not only conferred these high powers upon Congress, but it has adopted effectual means to restrain the States from interfering with their exercise. For that purpose it has, in strong prohibitory language, expressly declared that "no State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in paymet of debts, pass any bill of attainder, *ex post facto* law or law impairing the obligation of contracts." Moreover, "without the consent of Congress, no State shall lay any imposts or duties on any imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws;" and, if they exceed this amount, the excess shall belong to the U. S.

And "no State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage; keep troops, or ships of war, in time of peace; enter into any agreement or compact with another State, or with a foreign power; or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay."

In order still further to secure the uninterrupted exercise of these high powers against State interposition, it is provided "that this Constitution and the laws of the U. S. which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the U. S., shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding."

The solemn sanction of religion has been superadded to the obligations of official duty, and all senators and representatives of the U. S., all members of State legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, "both of the U. S. and of the several States, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support this Constitution."

In order to carry into effect these powers, the Constitution has established a perfect Government in all its forms, Legislative, Executive, and Judicial; and this Government, to the extent of its powers, acts directly upon the individual citizens of every State, and executes its own decrees by the agency of its own officers. In this respect it differs entirely from the Government under the old Confederation, which was confined to making requisitions on the States in their sovereign character. This left it in the discretion of each whether to obey or to refuse, and they often declined to comply with such requisitions. It thus became necessary, for the purpose of removing this barrier, and "in order to form a more perfect Union," to establish a Government which could act directly upon the people, and execute its own laws without the intermediate agency of the States. This has been accomplished by the Constitution of the U. S.

In short, the Government created by the Constitution, and deriving its authority from the sovereign people of each of the several States, has precisely the same right to exercise its power over the people of all these States, in the enumerated cases, that each one of them possesses over subjects not delegated to the U. S. but "reserved to the States, respectively, or to the people."

To the extent of the delegated powers the Constitution of the U. S. is as much a part of the constitution of each State, and is as binding upon its people, as though it had been textually inserted therein.

This gov't therefore, is a great and powerful gov't, invested with all the attributes of sovereignty over the special subjects to which its authority extends. Its framers never intended to implant in its bosom the seeds of its own destruction, nor were they at its creation guilty of the absurdity of providing for its own dissolution. It was not intended by its framers to be the baseless fabric of a vision which, at the touch of the enchanter, would vanish into thin air, but a substantial and mighty fabric, capable of resisting the slow decay of time and of defying the storms of ages. Indeed, well may the jealous patriots of that day have indulged fears that a gov't of such high powers might violate the reserved rights of the States, and wisely did they adopt the rule of a strict construction of these powers to prevent the danger! But they did not fear, nor had they any reason to imagine, that the Constitution would ever be so interpreted as to enable any State, by her own act, and without the consent of her sister States, to discharge her people from all or any of their Federal obligations.

It may be asked, then, are the people of the States without redress against the tyranny and oppression of the Federal Gov't? By no means. The right of resistance on the part of the governed against the oppression of their governments cannot be denied. It exists independently of all constitutions, and has been exercised at all periods of the world's history. Under it old gov'ts have been destroyed, and new ones have taken their place. It is embodied in strong and express language in our own Declaration of Independence. But the distinction must ever be observed, that this is revolution against an established gov't, and not a voluntary secession from it by virtue of an inherent constitutional right In short, let us look the danger fairly in the face: secession is neither more nor less than revolution. It may or it may not be a justifiable revolution, but still it is revolution.

What, in the mean time, is the responsibility and true position of the Executive? He is bound by solemn oath before God and the country "to take care that the laws be faithfully executed," and from this obligation he cannot be absolved by any human power. But what if the performance of this duty, in whole or in part, has been rendered impracticable by events over which he could have exercised no control? Such, at the present moment, is the case throughout the State of S. C., so far as the laws of the U. S. to secure the administration of justice by means of the Federal Judiciary are concerned. All the Federal officers within its limits, through whose agency alone these laws can be carried into execution have already resigned. We no longer have a district judge, a district attorney, or a marshal in S. C. In fact the whole machinery of the Federal Gov't, necessary for the distribution of remedial justice among the people, has been demolished; and it would be difficult, if not impossible, to replace it.

The only acts of Congress on the statute book, bearing upon this subject, are those of 28th Feb. 1795, and 3d March, 1807. These authorize the President, after he shall have ascertained that the marshal with his *posse comitatus* is unable to execute civil or criminal process in any particular case, to call forth the militia and employ the army and navy to aid him in performing this service, having first by proclamation commanded the insurgents "to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective abodes, within a limited time." This duty cannot by possibility be performed in a State where no judicial authority exists to issue process, and where there is no marshal to execute it, and where, even if there were such an officer, the entire population would constitute one solid combination to resist him.

The bare enumeration of these provisions proves how inadequate they are without further legislation to overcome a united opposition in a single State, not to speak of other States who may place themselves in a similar attitude. Congress alone has power to decide whether the present laws can or cannot be amended so as to carry out more effectually the objects of the Constitution.

The same insuperable obstacles do not lie in the way of executing the laws for the collection of the customs. The revenue still continues to be collected, as heretofore, at the custom-house in Charleston; and should the collector unfortunately resign, a successor may be appointed to perform this duty.

Then in regard to the property of the U. S. in S. C. This has been purchased for a fair equivalent, 'by the consent of the legislature of the State,' 'for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals,' &c., and over these the authority 'to exercise exclusive legislation' has been expressly granted by the constitution to Congress. It is not believed that any attempt will be made to expel the U. S. from this property by force; but if in this I should prove to be mistaken, the officer in command of the forts has received orders to act strictly on the defensive. In such a contingency, the responsibility for consequences would rightfully rest upon the heads of the assailants.

Apart from the execution of the laws, so far as this may be practicable, the Executive has no authority to decide what shall be the relations between the federal gov't and S. C. He has been invested with no such discretion. He possesses no power to change the relations heretofore existing between them, much less to acknowledge the independence of that State. This would be to invest a mere Executive officer with the power of recognising the dissolution of the Confederacy among our thirty-three sovereign States. It bears no resemblance to the recognition of a foreign *de facto* gov't, involving no such responsibility. Any attempt to do this would, on his part, be a naked act of usurpation. It is, therefore, my duty to submit to Congress the whole question in all its bearings. The course of events is so rapidly hastening forward, that the emergency may soon arise, when you may be called upon to decide the momentous question whether you possess the power, by force of arms, to compel a State to remain in the Union. I should feel myself recreant to my duty were I not to express an opinion on this important subject.

The question fairly stated is: Has the Constitution delegated to Congress the power to coerce a State into submission which is attempting to withdraw or has actually withdrawn from the Confederacy? If answered in the affirmative, it must be on the principle that the power has been conferred upon Congress to declare and to make war against a State. After much serious reflection I have arrived at the conclusion that no such power has been delegated to Congress or to any other department of the Federal gov't. It is manifest, upon an inspection of the Constitution, that this is not among the specific and enumerated powers granted to Congress; and it is equally apparent that its exercise is not "necessary and proper for carrying into execution" any one of these powers. So far from this power having been delegated to Congress, it was expressly refused by the convention which framed the Constitution.

It appears, from the proceedings of that body, that on the 31st May, 1787, the clause "*authorizing an exertion of the force of the whole against a delinquent State*" came up for consideration. Mr. Madison opposed it in a brief but powerful speech, from which I shall extract but a single sentence. He observed: "The use of force against a State would look more like a declaration of war than an infliction of punishment; and would probably be considered by the party attacked as a dissolution of all previous compacts by which it might be bound." Upon his motion the clause was unanimously postponed, and was never I believe again presented. Soon afterwards, on the 8th June, 1787, when incidentally adverting to the subject, he said: "Any gov't for the U. S., formed on the supposed practicability of using force against the unconstitutional proceedings of the States, would prove as visionary and fallacious as the gov't of Congress," evidently meaning the then existing Congress of the old Confederation.

Without descending to particulars, it may be safely asserted, that the power to make war against a State is at variance with the whole spirit and intent of the Constitution. Suppose such a war should result in the conquest of a State, how are we to govern it afterwards? Shall we hold it as a province, and govern it by despotic power? In the nature of things we could not, by physical force, control the will of the people, and compel them to elect senators and representatives to Congress, and to perform all the other duties depending upon their own volition, and required from the free citizens of a State as a constituent member of the Confederacy.

But, if we possessed this power, would it be wise to exercise it under existing circumstances? The object would doubtless be to preserve the Union. War would not only present the most effectual means of destroying it; but would banish all hope of its peaceable reconstruction. Besides, in the fraternal conflict a vast amount of blood and treasure would be expended, rendering future reconciliation between the States impossible. In the mean time, who can foretell what would be the sufferings and privations of the people during its existence?

The fact is, that our Union rests upon public opinion, and can never be cemented by the blood of its citizens shed in civil war. If it cannot live in the affections of the people, it must one day perish. Congress possess many means of preserving it by conciliation; but the sword was not placed in their hand to preserve it by force.

But may I be permitted solemnly to invoke my countrymen to pause and deliberate, before they determine to destroy this, the grandest temple which has ever been dedicated to human freedom since the world began? It has been consecrated by the blood of our fathers, by the glories of the past, and by the hopes of the future. The Union has already made us the most prosperous and, ere long, will, if preserved, render us the most powerful nation on the face of the earth. In every foreign region of the globe the title of American citizen is held in the highest respect, and when pronounced in a foreign land it causes the hearts of our countrymen to swell with honest pride. Surely when we reach the brink of the yawning abyss, we shall recoil with horror from the last fatal plunge. By such a dread catastrophe the hopes of the friends of freedom throughout the world would be destroyed, and a long night of leaden despotism would enshroud the nations. Our example for more than eighty years would not only be lost; but it would be quoted as a conclusive proof that man is unfit for self-government.

It is not every wrong—nay, it is not every grievous wrong—which can justify a resort to such a fearful alternative. This ought to be the last desperate remedy of a despairing people, after every other constitutional means of conciliation had been exhausted. We should reflect that under this free gov't there is an incessant ebb and flow in public opinion. The slavery question, like everything human, will have its day. I firmly believe that it has already reached and passed the culminating point. But if, in the midst of the existing excitement, the Union shall perish, the evil may then become irreparable. Congress can contribute much to avert it by proposing and recommending to the legislatures of the several States the remedy for existing evils, which the Constitution has itself provided for its own preservation. This has been tried at different critical periods of our history, and always with eminent success. It is to be found in the 5th article providing for its own amendment. Under this article amendments have been proposed by two-thirds of both houses of Congress, and have been "ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several States," and have consequently become parts of the Constitution To this process the country is indebted for the clause prohibiting Congress from passing any law respecting an establishment of religion, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, or of the right of petition. To this we are, also, indebted for the Bill of Rights, which secures the people against any abuse of power by the Federal gov't. Such were the apprehensions justly entertained by the friends of State-rights at that period as to have rendered it extremely doubtful whether the Constitution could have long survived without these amendments.

Again, the Constitution was amended by the same process after the election of President Jefferson by the House of Representatives, in February 1803. This amendment was rendered necessary to prevent a recurrence of the dangers which had seriously threatened the existence of the gov't during the pendency of that election. The article for its own amendment was intended to secure the amicable adjustment of conflicting constitutional questions like the present, which might arise between the gov'ts of the States and that of the U. S. This appears from contemporaneous history. In this connection, I shall merely call attention to a few sentences in Mr. Madison's justly celebrated report, in 1799, to the legislature of Virginia. In this he ably and conclusively defended the resolutions of the preceding legislature against the strictures of several other State legislatures. These were mainly founded upon the protest of the Virginia legislature against the "Alien and Sedition Acts," as "palpable and alarming infractions of the Constitution." In pointing out the peaceful and constitutional remedies, and he referred to none other, to which the States were authorized to resort, on such occasions, he concludes by saying, "that the legislatures of the States might have made a direct representation to Congress with a view to obtain a rescinding of the two offensive acts, or they might have represented to their respective senators in Congress their wish that two-thirds thereof would propose an explanatory amendment to the Constitution, or two-thirds of themselves, if such had been their option, might by an application to Congress, have obtained a convention for the same object."

This is the very course which I earnestly recommend in order to obtain an "explanatory amendment" of the Constitution on the subject of slavery. This might originate with Congress or the State legislatures, as may be deemed most advisable to attain the object.

The explanatory amendment might be confined to the final settlement of the true construction of the Constitution on three special points:

1. An express recognition of the right of property in slaves in the States where it now exists or may hereafter exist.

2. The duty of protecting this right in all the common Territories throughout their territorial existence, and until they shall be admitted as States into the Union, with or without slavery, as their constitutions may prescribe.

3. A like recognition of the right of the master to have his slave, who has escaped from one State to another, restored and "delivered up" to him, and of the validity of the fugitive-slave law enacted for this purpose, together with a declaration that all State laws impairing or defeating this right are violations of the Constitution, and are consequently null and void.

It may be objected that this construction of the Constitution has already been settled by the Supreme Court of the U. S., and what more ought to be required? The answer is, that a very large proportion of the people of the U. S. still contest the correctness of this decision, and never will cease from agitation and admit its binding force until clearly established by the people of the several States in their sovereign character. Such an explanatory amendment would, it is believed, forever terminate the existing dissensions and restore peace and harmony among the States.

It ought not to be doubted that such an appeal to the arbitrament established by the Constitution itself would be received with favor by all the States of the Confederacy. In any event it ought to be tried in a spirit of conciliation before any of these States shall separate themselves from the Union.

When I entered upon the duties of the presidential office, the aspect neither of our foreign nor domestic affairs was at all satisfactory. We were involved in dangerous complications with several nations, and two of our Territories were in a state of revolution against the Government. A restoration of the African slave trade had numerous and powerful advocates. Unlawful military expeditions were countenanced by many of our citizens, and were suffered, in defiance of the efforts of the Government, to escape from our shores, for the purpose of making war upon the unoffending people of neighboring republics with whom we were at peace. In addition to these and other difficulties, we experienced a revulsion in monetary affairs, soon after my advent to power, of unexampled severity and of ruinous consequences to all the great interests of the country. When we take a retrospect of what was then our condition and contrast this with its material prosperity at the time of the late presidential election, we have abundant reason to return our grateful thanks to that merciful Providence which has never forsaken us as a nation in all our past trials.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.—GREAT BRITAIN.—Our relations with Great Britain are of the most friendly character. Since the commencement of my administration, the two dangerous questions, arising from the Clayton and Bulwer treaty and from the right of search claimed by the British government, have been amicably and honorably adjusted.

The discordant constructions of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty between the two governments, which, at different periods of the discussion, bore a threatening aspect, have resulted in a final settlement entirely satisfactory to this Gov't. In my last annual message I informed Congress that the British gov't had not then "completed treaty arrangements with the republics of Honduras and Nicaragua, in pursuance of the understanding between the two gov'ts. It is nevertheless confidently expected that this good work will ere long be accomplished." This confident expectation has since been fulfilled. Her Britannic Majesty concluded a treaty with Honduras on the 28th Nov. 1859, and with Nicaragua on the 28th Aug. 1860, relinquishing the Mosquito protectorate. Besides, by the former, the Bay Islands are recognised as a part of the republic of Honduras. It may be observed that the stipulations of these treaties conform in every important particular to the amendments adopted by the Senate of the U. S. to the treaty concluded at London on the 17th Oct. 1856, between the two gov'ts. It will be recollected that this treaty was rejected by the British gov't because of its objection to the just and important amendment of the Senate to the article relating to Ruatan and the other islands in the Bay of Honduras.

It must be a source of sincere satisfaction to all classes of our fellow-citizens, and especially to those engaged in foreign commerce, that the claim, on the part of Great Britain, forcibly to visit and search American merchant vessels on the high seas in time of peace, has been abandoned. This was by far the most dangerous question to the peace of the two countries which has existed since the war of 1812. Whilst it remained open they might at any moment have been precipitated into a war. This was rendered manifest by the exasperated state of public feeling throughout our entire country, produced by the forcible search of American merchant vessels by British cruisers on the coast of Cuba, in the spring of 1858. The American people hailed with general acclaim the orders of the Secretary of the Navy to our naval force in the Gulf of Mexico, "to protect all vessels of the United States on the high seas from search or detention by the vessels-of-war of any other nation." These orders might have produced an immediate collision between the naval forces of the two countries. This was most fortunately prevented by an appeal to the justice of Great Britain and to the law of nations as expounded by her own most eminent jurists.

The only question of any importance which still remains open is the disputed title between the two gov'ts to the island of San Juan, in the vicinity of Washington Territory. As this question is still under negotiation, it is not deemed advisable at the present moment to make any other allusion to the subject.

The recent visit of the Prince of Wales, in a private character, to the people of this country, has proved to be a most auspicious event. In its consequences, it cannot fail to increase the kindred and kindly feelings which I trust may ever actuate the government and people of both countries in their political and social intercourse with each other.

FRANCE.—With France, our ancient and powerful ally, our relations continue to be of the most friendly character. A decision has recently been made by a French judicial tribunal, with the approbation of the Imperial Government, which cannot fail to foster the sentiments of mutual regard that have so long existed between the two countries. Under the French law no person can serve in the armies of France unless he be a French citizen. The law of France recognizing the natural right of expatriation, it follows as a necessary consequence that a Frenchman, by the fact of having become a citizen of the U. S., has changed his allegiance and lost his native character. He cannot therefore, be compelled to serve in the French armies in case he should return to his native country. These principles were announced in 1852 by the French Minister of War, and in two late cases have been confirmed by the French judiciary. In these, two natives of France have been discharged from the French army because they had become American citizens. To employ the language of our present minister to France, who has rendered good service on this occasion, "I do not think our French naturalized fellow citizens will hereafter experience much annoyance on this subject." I venture to predict that the time is not far distant when the other continental powers will adopt the same wise and just policy which has done so much honor to the enlightened gov't of the Emperor. In any event, our gov't is bound to protect the rights of our naturalized citizens everywhere to the same extent as though they had drawn their first breath in this country. We can recognize no distinction between our native and naturalized citizens.

RUSSIA.—Between the great empire of Russia and the U. S. the mutual friendship and regard which has so long existed still continues to prevail, and, if possible, to increase. Indeed, our relations with that Empire are all that we could desire.

SPAIN.—Our relations with Spain are now of a more complicated though less dangerous character than they have been for many years. Our citizens have long held, and continue to hold, numerous claims against the Spanish gov't. These had been ably urged for a series of years by our successive diplomatic representatives at Madrid, but without obtaining redress. The Spanish gov't finally agreed to institute a joint commission for the adjustment of these claims, and on the 5th day of March, 1860, concluded a convention for this purpose with our present minister at Madrid. Under this convention, what have been denominated "the Cuban claims," amounting to $128,635 and 54 cents, in which more than one hundred of our fellow-citizens are interested, were recognised, and the Spanish gov't agreed to pay $100,000 of this amount "within three months following the exchange of ratifications." The payment of the remaining $28,635 54 was to await the decision of the commissioners for or against "the Amistad claim;" but in any event the balance was to be paid to the claimants either by Spain or the U. S. These terms I have every reason to know are highly satisfactory to the holders of the Cuban claims. Indeed, they have made a formal offer authorising the State Department to settle these claims, and to deduct the amount of the Amistad claim from the sums which they are entitled to receive from Spain. This offer, of course, cannot be accepted.

(*Concluded on Fourth Page.*)

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Pursuant to a previous notice, a very large portion of the people of Rockfish District, met together at Rockfish village, on the 3d inst., to give expression of their feelings concerning the great political excitement of our country at this time. Mr. Daniel J. McLeod was called to the Chair by acclamation and Benj Morgan and Patrick Alderman to act as Secretaries.

The object of the meeting was explained by the Chairman and the following Committee appointed to draft resolutions for the action of the meeting, viz: W. M. Fort, D. McDougald and James Cameron. During the absence of the committee on resolutions, the house was addressed by several gentlemen in a very eloquent and patriotic manner. The committee having returned, the following preamble and resolutions were presented through the chairman, and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, In view of the present exciting causes that disturb the country, and especially the South, we, the people of Rockfish District, have assembled ourselves together for the purpose of taking counsel of each other, expressing our sentiments, and resolving ourselves upon what course to take on the all-absorbing topics which threaten the dissolution of these United States, trusting to an all-wise Providence, as did the people who united us in the bond of friendship to give us wisdom, reliance and determination to guide us safely through these troublous times; therefore we do

Resolve, 1st, That we deeply deplore the causes and solemnly protest against the course of certain sectional partisans known as Black Republicans of the North, and Secessionists of the South, unwise and unlawful in their objects, thereby producing issues tending to make enmity among ourselves, causing foreign governments to tamper with our institutions, become another example of the instability of Free Government, and adding strength to the right of Monarchical Governments.

2d, We do think that the principle of liberty is that the majority shall rule, and the election of a President by a large numerical vote, however obnoxious to us or our peculiar southern institutions, is not a sufficient cause for the secession of the Slave States, knowing that he is but the servant of the people, and believing that there is a sufficient conservative force in both Houses of Congress to exclude the adoption of any unjust measures that may be brought forward to damage the interests of Southern slavery.

3d, That in our opinion the time has not yet arrived for a final separation, without great sacrifices of property, depression of the poor, and high prices for articles paid to foreign governments, even less friendly than our own North; rather let us wait till we build up factories of our own, make and wear our own goods, and learn to be more economical; abide the re-action that we are persuaded is taking place in the mind of the leaders and working classes at the North, believing that starvation is more potent in the latter than an appeal to arms, and above all, till some coercion be forced upon us.

4th, That in time of peace we should prepare for war, and to meet the contingency of the times we do recommend and respectfully petition our present Legislature to make an appropriation sufficient for the general defence of the State against invasion from whatever quarter it may come, and lest our moderation may be taken for submission, we would also petition the same to adopt a very liberal policy towards the formation of volunteer corps.

5th, Resolved, that in the event of failure of moderation and respect for our patriotic and law-abiding citizens of the North producing no honorable reaction towards the fulfilment of compacts guaranteed by the Constitution, executing the Fugitive Slave Law, in its letter and spirit, a free occupation of territory by slaveholders, and protection of their property wherever not restricted by local or territorial enactment, and the repealing of all Personal Liberty Laws be not faithfully carried out, adhered to and executed, that then and not until then do we ponder over the necessity of severing the bonds of this Union forever. Considering as we do, that such a separation would be productive of the most disastrous results, at present our motto shall be to Wait and Watch.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be sent to the mass meeting to be held at Fayetteville, on the 4th inst., also to the Fayetteville Observer for publication.

D. J. McLEOD, Ch'n.

BENJ. MORGAN, P. F. ALDERMAN, } Sec'ys.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

PUBLIC MEETING IN ROBESON COUNTY.

Agreeable to a notice given, a large and respectable portion of the citizens of Robeson County, irrespective of party, assembled in the Court House in Lumberton, on Monday, 26th ult., being the week of County Court, to take into consideration the state of our federal affairs, and to devise some mode of redress. On motion, A. D. Brown, Esq., was called to the Chair, and James A. Rozier and James C. Humphrey, Esq., were requested to act as Secretaries.

Col. T. A. Norment explained the object of the meeting in a speech of much force; he was followed by Col. T. J. Morisey, R. E. Troy and J. W. Cameron, Esqrs. Much enthusiasm and unanimity of feeling were evinced; all parties being pleased with the sentiments expressed and giving them their hearty approval.

On motion of Col. T. J. Morisey, the following resolutions were adopted as expressive of the sense of the meeting:

Resolved, That the election of a President and Vice President upon sectional grounds is no just ground for immediate resistance and the total overthrow of our present Union.

Resolved That in view of the perils with which we are now surrounded, it is right and proper that the slave-holding States should demand some further and securer guarantees from the Northern States that their rights, their lives and fire sides should be for the future unmolested and protected.

Resolved, That the resistance of the fugitive slave law by the Northern States is unlawful, unconstitutional, subversive of that unity which binds us together as one great and happy people, and makes every one concerned in such violation of Constitutional rights a disloyal citizen and a disunionist.

Resolved, That we are willing to remain in the Union with the Northern States, provided they will execute the fugitive slave law, and for the future let our domestic institutions alone; otherwise we will resist their invasion and encroachment, and the responsibilities will rest upon their shoulders who have invaded our Constitutional rights and excited rebellion among our slave population.

Resolved, That we regard the proper course for us to pursue to be the holding of a State Convention, and this endeavor to act in concert for the perpetuity of our rights and union of these States.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to the Chairman and Secretaries, and that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Fayetteville Observer and all the papers of this Congressional District.

All of which, were unanimously adopted. On motion, the meeting adjourned.

A. D. BROWN, Ch'm'n.

JAMES A. ROZIER, JAMES C. HUMPHREY, } Secy's.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

ALBEMARLE, N. C., Nov. 25, 1860.

Gentlemen: Although I have been a subscriber to the Observer since 1838, I have never attempted to give publicity to any opinion of mine either through its columns or any other journal. And I am now led to offer a few reflections from the conviction of its being the duty of all who are taking notice of passing events, to give some expression of opinion as to what we should do under our present circumstances.

All agree that the South has been imposed on by our brethren of the North, and that we have just cause of complaint for many unneighborly acts, which they of the North have committed toward us, and especially the acts of many of the Northern States in enacting laws prohibiting the execution of the Fugitive Slave Law; but it does seem to me that if the South had intended taking any action on that account, they have delayed too long, and that it comes with bad grace now to threaten to secede from the Union for a cause which has so long existed, and one too that we have never attempted in a proper manner to have remedied. I think these laws, so objectionable to the South, ought to be repealed by the Legislatures of the States respectively that have enacted them. And in all probability if they were asked in a becoming manner to recede from the position they have assumed and abrogate those unfriendly enactments they might do so. At all events it does seem to me that no effort should be left untried to bring about a reconciliation between the various members of this great, glorious and powerful people; that the method pursued by South Carolina is the very one most likely to defeat this object and widen the breach, is too apparent to any one.

I this evening received that most excellent paper, the National Intelligencer of the 22d, whose columns are always filled with wholesome and conservative advice and patriotic teachings.

I had the pleasure of reading the great speech of Mr. Stephens, before the members of the Georgia Legislature. Oh, that we had more such spirits amongst us, men who are not afraid before a whole nation of secessionists, with their distinctive badges of disunion, to avow sentiments of peace and good neighborhood amongst brothers; who would dare counsel and advise men for their good, at the risk of being hissed at and ill-treated; for although the strictest attention was paid to him, and his Address received with great applause, the reverse might have been expected. I think his speech ought to appear in every newspaper in the entire length and breadth of this land. I also read with no little degree of pleasure, the proceedings and address of the members of the Maryland State Baptist Association, copied in the same paper. And although all my life a Methodist, I am sorry that my own church does not come out in equally bold and unmistakeable advocacy of right and proper action—that she has not, through her many presses, in speaking of the present gloomy aspect of affairs, insisted upon that spirit of forbearance and brotherly love which she says is a main and leading characteristic of the gospel of the son of God. In a word that she does not attempt the office of peace-maker, remembering the blessings pronounced on such. But instead thereof, on looking over the Southern Christian Advocate of same date 22d, it gives an account of the mass secession meeting in Charleston, and afterwards such telegraphic despatches as had reference to the present state of feeling (especially as she remarks) amongst her readers, by reference to which I found them all, with one single exception, ex-parte proceedings calculated to inflame the public mind and strengthen the views and further the designs of the secessionists, in fact to aid in bringing about a dissolution of the government.

Seeing her position I was enabled to account for the raising of the palmetto flag before the door of Carolina Female College.

The South Carolina conference has had an agent, this year, procuring subscriptions for the purpose of purchasing that institution, and they likely thought that would aid him in his operations. * * * * In justice to the people of that community, I can say that it is so far from reflecting their views and sentiments, that there cannot be more than one fourth of the people in that captain's district, who approve of it. In fact, they are indignant at the insult.

There were only 37 votes cast for Breckinridge to 72 for Bell, and some who voted for Breckinridge are strong Union men.

A UNION MAN.

SELLING OFF

AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

The balance of my Fall & Winter Stock of

Silks, Merinoes, Plaids, Poplins, Delaines, Debeges, Valencias; French, English and American Prints; Bonnets, Artificials, Ribbons; Dress Trimmings; Cloaks; Shawls; Housekeeping Goods; Table Linens; Hosiery; Zephyr Work; Cloths, Cassimeres and Vestings;

Ready-Made Clothing;

Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps; Trunks, Carpet Bags and Valises; Umbrellas; Musical Instruments, &c., &c., &c., &c.

Will be offered much below the usual

COST FOR CASH.

A rare opportunity for all those wishing new Goods at a great Bargain.

Call at Nos. 14 and 16 Hay St., at

GEORGE BRANDT'S.

Fayetteville, Nov. 22, 1860. 73tf

To Close Business!

WE WILL SELL THE BALANCE OF THE NEW and desirable STOCK on HAND, at

Prices to save Cost only, for Cash!

The Manufactured

Clothing is our own superior make,

latest style, reliable fabrics.

The stock of Underwear, Furnishing Goods, Umbrellas, Trunks, &c.,

Will compare favorably with any in the State.

We will close the

Entire Stock at Wholesale or Retail.

To any person desirous of engaging in the business we will sell the Stock, Store Fixtures, &c., &c., upon favorable terms. The business is well established, profitably conducted, and promises an increase in sales annually.

Our BOOKS are CLOSED TO ANY further CREDIT from THIS DATE, in order that we may wind up the business as speedily as possible.

In view of this determination, our friends and patrons will see the necessity for an

Early settlement of their Notes and Accounts.

In connection with the above announcement, we tender to the citizens of Fayetteville and surrounding country our grateful acknowledgments for their very liberal and increasing patronage.

Bargains! Bargains!

In Superior Goods, at

O. S. BALDWIN & CO'S

Clothing and Furnishing Store,

21 Hay St., Fayetteville, N. C.

Nov. 28. 74tf

Southern Piano Manufactory.

RUN NO RISK! RUN NO RISK!!

THOSE who wish to purchase a good and reliable PIANO, would do well to get one of BOSWELL & CO'S

New Cross-String Iron Frame Grand Patent

ACTION PIANOS.

They have given universal satisfaction wherever they have been sold, and are considered by judges to be one of the best SQUARE PIANOS that are now made. They combine all the late improvements, together with LARGER SOUNDING BOARD, which makes their tone so full and melodious. All our Pianos are sold on a guarantee for five years, with the privilege to exchange within six months after the sale—should they not give satisfaction; and we guarantee to those who purchase from us, a safe delivery of our Pianos, we assuming all responsibilities. Therefore, those who purchase of us RUN NO RISK.

A large number of our Pianos have been sold in this State and elsewhere. We name some who have purchased of us, to whom we can refer.

Geo. Houston, Esq., Miles Costin, Esq., Joshua G. Wright, Esq., Wilmington; Mrs. Banks, Warren Prior, Esq., E. J. Lilly, Esq., Fayetteville; Major Wm. C Draughon, Luke A. Powell, Esq., Sampson Co.; A. R Hicks, Esq., Dr. Jos. Blount, Duplin Co.; E. Stanly, Esq., Kenansville. Also, Ex-Gov. Branch of Halifax Co.; Dr. G. C. Marchant, Currituck Co.; John Pool, Esq., Pasquotank Co.; and many others.

Old Pianos will be taken in exchange in part pay for new ones. We sell for cash or approved notes at six and twelve months.

All orders sent to our address will be faithfully and promptly attended to.

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J. E. BOSWELL & CO.,

Piano Manufacturers:

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June 6, 1860. 24-ltf

E. MURRAY. D. R. MURCHISON. J. T. MURRAY.

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WHOLESALE GROCERS,

NORTH WATER STREET,

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☞ Particular attention given to sale or shipment of Cotton and Naval Stores.

Mixed Canary Seed, just received by

S. J. HINSDALE & CO.

Nov. 7, 1860. 67tf

THE SECTIONAL TROUBLES.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 5.—During the debate in Legislature, yesterday, establishing an Ordnance bureau, Mr. Rhett said that there had been eight largest sized Paixhan guns for several years in Charleston, which may perhaps be used in taking the forts in the harbor.

Mr. Marshall said that the State had 382 companies of infantry; 50 companies of cavalry; 18 companies of artillery, and 62 of rifles, making 121 battalions, 56 regiments, 14 brigades and 5 divisions.

Mr. McGowan said that the total military force of the State was 65,000 men.

COLUMBIA, Wednesday, Dec. 5.—The House passed the bill to provide an armed military force without opposition. It authorizes the Government to call into service ten thousand volunteers. It will be taken up in the Senate to-morrow.

The President's Message is here. It does not create much remark. The people were prepared for the views expressed in relation to secession beforehand, and are taking such steps as they deem necessary to meet whatever exigency may arise.

Mississippi.—The Mississippi Legislature adjourned on the 30th ult. They passed, unanimously, the Convention bill; also, resolutions in favor of secession, and authorizing the Governor to appoint Commissioners to co-operate with the slaveholding States.—*Charleston Mercury.*

Texas.—Advices from Texas state that, owing to the unanimous feeling for secession, Governor Sam Houston will resign. The majority of Breckinridge in Texas over Bell and Douglas is 32,109.

Charleston Mercury.

Texas.—Reliable information from Texas represents that State as on the eve of revolution against the State Government. Gov. Houston refuses to convene the Legislature; the Legislature alone can authorize the holding of a State Convention. The impression prevails that a Convention will be called by the people, and that having overthrown the State Government, they will secede from the Union. This information, I understand, has been received by one of her Senators. It is believed that the prospect of a speedy reconciliation here will check proceedings there, and maintain order in that State.

Wash. Cor. N. Y. Times.

Alabama.—Twenty six cases, containing munitions of war for the State of Alabama, arrived in this city by the Columbia, from New York, on their way to Montgomery. They were brought hither by the Adams' Express Company, and forwarded to their destination without charge.

Charleston Courier.

New Jersey.—A State Convention of Union men has been called and signed by Com. Stockton, Senator Thompson, Ex-Gov. Pierre and others.

From the Wash. Cor. of the N. Y. Times.

Mr. Hamlin will tender his resignation, to take effect on the 1st of February, with a retiring speech, which will, it is thought, reflect somewhat the policy of the incoming Administration.

Humphrey Marshall, of Kentucky, arrived today. He has consulted with Mr. Breckinridge, and believes that Kentucky will stand firmly by the Union.

Senator Hale desires it to be understood, and he so stated frequently, that he did not invite nor threaten civil war; he only expressed the opinion that war would result inevitably from secession.

Senator Iverson's attack upon Gov. Houston, of Texas, is severely censured by the Democrats. He called Houston a treacherous old hoary-headed villain, a traitor to his country, and the Julius Cæsar of Texas. He was very violent. He frequently referred to the Republicans as black, treacherous assassins, &c.

Gov Letcher, of Virginia, is arranging for a commission to South Carolinia, to urge delay in her action. It is said that Ex-President Tyler, Senator Hunter and W. C. Rives will constitute the commission. The Union men of Virginia express great confidence in the success of this.

The Governor of Kentucky is understood to contemplate the same step, and Messrs. Breckinridge, James Guthrie and Crittenden will be appointed a Commission. This example will probably be followed by all the border States, including North Carolina, Tennessee and Maryland.

Private letters received from Mr. Lincoln by a special friend of his here, urge moderation and forbearance. He desires everything done that is possible, without regarding his party or the North, to harmonize the sections. He speaks in high terms of the articles in the New York Times and the Albany Journal. [The articles alluded to are those suggesting the restoration of the Missouri Compromise, repeal of personal liberty laws, and payment for fugitives.]

Secretary Floyd has written a letter home for publication, in which he defends the right of secession, but urges joint action by the Southern States. He thinks bloodshed will be avoided, and that the Union will be speedily reconstructed, as neither section can do without the other. "The mouth cannot do without the belly, nor the belly, without the mouth." While all the material interests of the North must suffer from a separation the South will find her reliance upon English commerce deceptive. He expresses surprise at such a reliance, in view of the fact that British gold and influence are the chief cause of the present difficulties. He urges that a State Convention be held; and recommends a General Convention of all Southern States.

Views of a Republican Governor.—Mr. Curtin, the Governor elect of Pennsylvania, made a speech in Philadelphia on Saturday evening, during which he referred to the nullifying laws of that State. The speaker doubted whether any of her legislative enactments interfered with the statutes of the United States; but, if they did, the principle was maintained that they should be immediately repealed. While Pennsylvania thus yielded to the national government, she expected every State, both North and South, to be as faithful as herself to constitutional obligations.

First Toll of the Funeral Bell.—To-day the obsequies of the Union commence, by the election of members of the Convention in South Carolina, which is to declare that State a *foreign* power to her sister States! Strange thought! Astonishing change! Yet, the world political, as well as the world physical, has its phenomena to startle the public vision and perplex the public judgment.

The theme is a truly melancholy one, and we have no heart to dilate upon it. In contemplating it we feel as if the blackness of the shadow of death was around us. South Carolinians, like the Thracians of old, may dance in ecstacies over the grave of the Republic which they have dug, but such hiliarious extravagances do not accord, in our view, with the mournful solemnity of the occasion. We tell her now that she may cry out "hurrah for the Southern Confederacy!" and yet, in all human probability, in less than twenty years after it shall have been formed, her people will be shouting at the top of their voices, "down with the Southern Confederacy!"

Petersburg Express, 6th.

The N. Y. Commercial, in its money article, has the following:

"We have heard of some sales of paper since our last at twelve per cent., but it was the very strongest names, the identical ones which were eagerly taken a short time since at four and a half."

Even so, and, that "short time since" was when our friend assured its readers that Lincoln's election would satisfy and pacify the country.—*N. Y. Com.*

LATER FROM EUROPE.

PORTLAND, ME., Dec. 6, 1860.

The Canadian, with Liverpool dates to the 22d ult., has arrived here.

The result of the late Presidential election in the United States had reached England, and the event is commented on by English journals, which express satisfaction at the success of the Republicans. The Prince of Wales had returned to Oxford and resumed his studies. He was received with much rejoicing. Advices from Italy indicate that Gaeta will soon be in the hands of the Piedmontese. The Neapolitan troops continued to fight resolutely, but great defection existed among the Officers. A statement was current that the British Government had intimated to that of France its intention to recognize the new order of things at Naples, and that the French Emperor had signified his willingness to do so after Francis had evacuated Gaeta. The intelligence from other points is uninteresting.

The Markets.—LIVERPOOL, Nov. 22, 1860.—Cotton—Sales for three days reached 83,000 bales: The market opened very dull, at a decline of ⅛d; inferior qualities declined more. On Thursday the tone of the market improved, but there was no advance in prices. The stock in port is 575,000 bales; of which 437,000 bales were American. Flour has declined 6d. Rosin and Spirits Turpentine dull.

Presidential Election in Mexico.—The steamer Austria, from Brazos on the 1st, brings intelligence that the proclamation for a new Presidential election in Mexico had been published. The favorite candidate was Lerdo de Tajedor.

Destructive Fire.—The Western Lunatic Asylum, at Hopkinsville Ky., was destroyed by fire on Friday morning. All the inmates except one were saved. The loss is about $200,000.

While the N. Y. Electoral College was in session, the Capitol took fire, but the flames were extinguished, before much damage was done. Is that an omen?—*N. Y. Express.*

Official Vote of Missouri.—The official vote of Missouri is as follows: Douglas, 58,801; Bell, 58,372; Breckinridge 31,317; Lincoln, 17,028.

Vote of Illinois.—The following is the official vote of Illinois, Monroe and Pulaski counties being thrown out on account of informality: For Mr. Lincoln, 171,106; for Mr. Douglas, 158,254; for Mr. Bell, 4,851; for Mr. Breckinridge, 2,292; for Mr. Smith 35.

The Vote of Virginia.—The footings of the official returns of the votes for President in the State of Virginia, exclusive of the informalities which caused a division of the electoral college, are as follows: Mr. Bell, 74,681; Mr. Breckinridge, 74,323; Mr. Douglas, 16,375; Mr. Lincoln, 1,929.

The Electoral College.—The Electors for President and Vice President assembled in the Senate Chamber in the Capitol, on yesterday at two o'clock. Mr. Venable was chosen to preside, and W. J. Saunders, Esq., of this City, was appointed Secretary.

The ten Electoral votes of the State were cast for John C. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, for President, and Joseph Lane, of Oregon, for Vice President.

Mr. R. H. Whitaker, of this City, was appointed messenger to deliver the vote to the President of the Senate.—*Raleigh Standard.*

Land Sale.—A tract of the land belonging to John Meadors, consisting of 740 acres, and lying in the southwestern part of the country, was sold at auction in this town, on Tuesday of this week, for $5,600, or within a fraction of $7 57 an acre. This land is considered among the best in the county, and two months ago would have brought at the lowest $10 an acre.—*Wades. Argus.*

Mr. Wright's Railroad Bill.—Mr. Wright of Cumberland introduced, since I last wrote, his bill for equipping and proper furnishing your Road to the Coal Fields, asking an exchange of Bonds for the sum of $200,000 and also $10,000 a mile upon like conditions when ready for the iron, until a connection is had with the North Carolina Rail Road—at some point hereafter determined by the stockholders. He is hopeful, even under existing difficulties, and he says if there is any improvement which appeals stronger than all others to the liberality of the State *in or out of the Union*, in *peace or war*, it is that which developes as this road will do, a country rich in every element of material wealth, and which sooner or later will make her the *creditor State of the South.*—*Cor. N. C. Presbyterian.*

Business at the North Declining.—The secession excitement at the South is telling with fearful effect on business at the North, especially in the New England States, where fanaticism has so long had full sway. The Hartford (Conn.) Times hears of large establishments reducing work which it may not be proper now to name. In Bridgeport upwards of 1,000 employees are out of work and in New Haven 2,000. Dunbar's hoop skirt factory at Bristol has stopped work. The Plantation Hoe Co., and the Southern Carriage Co., both of Winsted, have had large Southern orders countermanded. The stoppage of the Birmingham iron and steel works is the worst blow to that village which Birmingham has ever experienced. The prospect is that many other branches of business in Connecticut and other Northern States will be prostrated the coming winter.

ENCOURAGE HOME INDUSTRY!

MERCHANT TAILORING

AND

Clothing Manufacturing Establishment.

THE subscriber very respectfully informs his friends and the public generally, that he will from this day, have all his Clothing manufactured in his House, under the supervision of some of the best and most skillful Mechanics, and every Garment will be warranted. Every article of Clothing made to measure on the shortest notice, and a perfect fit insured.

A fine and choice assortment of CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, DOESKINS and VESTINGS, always on hand.

All those wishing to make a genteel appearance in a nice and substantial Home-Made suit of Cloth will please call on

GEORGE BRANDT,

No. 16 Hay St., Fayetteville.

ON the 15th inst., I shall want Twenty-five experienced hands to make Pantaloons and Vests. Constant employment and liberal wages will be given to good hands; none other need apply.

GEO. BRANDT.

Dec'r 8, 1860. 75tf

WHEELER & WILSON'S

SEWING MACHINES.

FOR SALE BY

S. J. HINSDALE, Ag't.

Sept. 13. 62-ltf

CONGRESS.

CONGRESS.—On Monday, the first day of the session, 49 Senators and 196 Representatives were present. Nothing of importance was done in either House.

On Tuesday, in the Senate, after the reading of the Message, Mr. Clingman commented unfavorably upon that portion of it relating to the sectional troubles. He said that the South's feeling had been aroused not merely by the election of a dangerous man to the Presidency, but by his election because he was known to be dangerous. Mr. Lincoln was taken up and elected because he was the endorser of the "irrepressible conflict" idea, and avowed the intention of the North to make war on the South. He did not think the present movement would stop until the Southern States go out of the Union; and he thought that the wisest thing this Congress could do was to divide the public property fairly and apportion the public debt, and let the separation be peaceable.

Mr. Crittenden said he regretted very much that the gentleman from North Carolina had thought it proper to be the first one to speak of disunion or secession. He did not rise for the purpose of making a speech but to express the hope that the example of the gentleman would not be followed, and that they would not allow themselves to be involved in any such discussion. They had better not have come at all, if they did not come with the intention to solemnly deliberate on the great questions thus thrust upon us. This Union was established by great sacrifices, and it is worthy of great sacrifices and great concessions for its maintenance. And he trusted there was no Senator but was willing to yield and conciliate, and to compromise in order to preserve the Union to the nation and to the country, and again restore that harmony and fraternity that belong to the Union, which has given us so much blessing and prosperity. He would not now allude to any question of the Message, but as to the question of Mr. Lincoln's election being cause for disunion there is a great diversity of opinion. He did not believe there was a man in the State of Kentucky who was in favor of disunion. They were Union loving men, and he believed such men were to be found in North Carolina, judging from the noble character of the State and her representatives here. She has always with the noble firmness in her character carried the olive branch in her hand, and he hoped the gentleman, on reconsideration, would unite with them, not doubting but that he had as true respect for the country as any one.

In the House, after reading the Message, Mr. Sherman moved its reference to the committee of the whole, and that the usual number be printed. Mr. Boteler of Virginia moved to amend as follows:—

Resolved, That so much of the President's message as relates to the present perilous condition of the country be referred to a special committee of one from each State, with leave to report at any time.

Many amendments were offered, but finally Mr. B's resolution was adopted, 145 to 38. The resolution was voted for by the Democrats, the Whigs, and about two-thirds of the Republicans. The nays were Republicans. Many members from "the cotton States" declined to vote, as their States were considering the matter to come before the committee. Among them Mr. Miles, of South Carolina, said that the South Carolina delegation had not voted, conceiving that they had no interest in the question. The State was already out of the Confederacy, save in the mere form. And Mr. Pugh, of Alabama, said his State intended to follow South Carolina, and therefore she intended to pay no attention to any action of this body. [It is difficult to understand why these gentlemen were there, holding such opinions.]

Mr Boteler declined a place on the committee (to be appointed by the Speaker) and the House adjourned.

On Wednesday, in the Senate, Mr. Greene submitted a resolution that the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the propriety of establishing an armed police force at all necessary points along the line separating the slaveholding States from the non-slaveholding States, for the purpose of maintaining the general peace between those States, of preventing the invasion of one State by citizens of another, and also for the efficient execution of the fugitive slave law.

Mr. Lane spoke favorably of the Message and of the South; he was followed by Mr. Hale, who criticised the message as pointless in argument and defective in its recommendations, which specified no plan for the accommodation of existing difficulties. He thought that it would be the part of wisdom for both sides to look the question which was upon us full in the face. He spoke of war as the result of present Southern movements.

Messrs. Brown, Iverson, and Davis, (Southern Democrats) in a few observations, delivered their opinions upon the present crisis, avowing the conviction that he speedy secession of their respective States was inevitable. Mr. Iverson was ready to meet the war threatened by the Senator from New Hampshire, if it must come. The South did not want war, but means to go out of the Union before the 4th of March.

Mr. Wigfall (S. D.) commented with great severity on what he pronounced the illogical and contradictory positions taken by the President in his message, and defended at considerable length the theory of State rights, as embodied in the "Resolutions of '98."

Mr. Saulsbury, (S. D.) declared that the State of Delaware, the first to ratify the Constitution of the United States, would be the last to desert it. If, by the madness of men, our Union was broken, it would be for the State of Delaware to determine her future position, and till then it did not become her Senators to announce what that position would be.

In the House of Representatives the homestead bill was passed 132 to 76; and also an appropriation bill for the U. S. Military Academy, and the appropriations for invalid and other pensioners. The various parts of the President's Message were appropriately referred.

On Thursday, in the Senate, a resolution offered by Mr. Powell to refer the secession portion of the President's Message to a committee of 13, was adopted. Committee to be announced to-day. Part of its duty is to inquire into the necessity of further legislation to protect Federal property, and also into the expediency of so amending the Constitution as to insure protection to slave property in the States and Territories.

The Senate adjourned to Monday.

In the House, the Speaker announced the Special Committee of one from each State on the secession portion of the President's message: Messrs. Corwin of Ohio, Millson of Va., Adams of Mass., Winslow of N. C., Humphrey of N. Y., Boyce of S. C., Campbell of Penn., Love of Geo., Ferry of Conn., Davis of Md., Robinson of R. I., Whitely of Del., Tappan of N. H., Stratton of N. J., Bristow of Ken., Morrill of Vt., Nelson of Tenn., Dunn of Ind., Taylor of Lou., Davis of Miss., Kellogg of Ill., Houston of Ala., Morse of Me., Phelps of Mo., Rust of Ark., Howard of Mich., Hawkins of Flo., Hamilton of Texas, Washburne of Wis., Curtis of Iowa, Burch of Cal., Windom of Min., and Stout of Oregon.

Mr. Hawkins, of Fla., asked to be excused from serving on the committee. He didn't believe in the appointment of a committee for Union saving purposes now. He believed, as heretofore, that the time for compromise had passed. Mr. John Cochrane strongly appealed to Mr. Hawkins to withdraw the request. His remarks were ardent and patriotic, and were applauded by the galleries. Mr. Garnett, of Va., rebuked this demonstration, and the galleries hissed. Mr. Garnett said he called those hissing disgraceful blackguards, and hoped the Chair would maintain order. Quiet was restored. Mr. Cochrane also condemned any applause or censure. He said if the American Congress is to fall let it fall with the robes of order decently draped around it. Mr. Hawkins said his actions were the result of twenty years' reflection. Mr. Crawford, of Georgia, wanted to see whether the House would force Mr. Hawkins to serve. He hoped that the other Southern members would also ask to be excused.

There is no doubt that a large portion of the Southern members will ask to be excused from serving on the committee.

Adjourned to Monday, without a decision.

FEELING IN KENTUCKY.—Mr. Guthrie, of Kentucky, (President Pierce's Secretary of the Treasury,) said in a late speech in Louisville:—

"Here on the south side of the Ohio, a middle State, with the free States on the one side and the South upon the other, what have we to gain out of the Union, and shall we be driven or forced into antagonism with either section? We naturally take sides with those whose interests are identical with our own, *but we will not fight the battles of South Carolina while she is safe at home in bed.*"

FEELING AT HARPER'S FERRY.—An influential citizen of Harper's Ferry writes as follows:—

"The secession movements in the South are greatly deprecated in this section of the country. With the exception of a very few politicians the people of these parts go for the Union—a secessionist being a 'rara avis.' Though we have perhaps more cause for complaint than any other section, we stand by the integrity of the Union."

BANK DIVIDEND.—4 per cent. by the Merchants' Bank of Newbern.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

From the Standard we take a few items of Saturday's proceedings in the Commons not embraced in our report, and condense the proceedings of both Houses on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

In the Commons, on Saturday, the committees on corporations was announced, viz: Messrs. Waddell, Taylor, Winslow, Folk and Alfred.

Mr. Jordan introduced a bill to lay off and establish the county of Transylvania, from portions of Henderson and Jackson.

Mr. Foust, a bill to amend the charter of the Farmers' Bank of N. C., making Greensboro' the place of meeting for the stockholders.

Mr. Mendenhall, a bill to incorporate the Cornelius copper mining company of Baltimore.

A memorial was presented from Hon. R. M. Saunders and others, Judges of the Superior Courts, in favor of the erection of an additional judicial circuit for the State, and for the division of the State into two districts of four circuits each.

A bill concerning magistrates in Chatham, a resolution in favor of Thomas Diggs of Anson; bills incorporating Edinboro' Academy, the Dublin Academy, and amending Charlotte charter, were passed their second readings.

Mr. Guthrie offered a resolution which was adopted requesting the Governor to inform the House what arms are in possession of the State, and what disposition has been made of the arms, &c., received from the General Government.

Mr. Love of Haywood, introduced a bill to amend the 37th chapter of the Revised Code, so as to divide the State into eight judicial circuits.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Mendenhall, to amend the Revised Code, chap. 14, sec. 26, on corporations.

Mr. Gorrell introduced a bill requiring the appointment of Coroners' bonds.

In the Senate, on Monday, Mr. Shaw offered a bill to amend the charter of the F. and W. and the Fayetteville Plank Road Companies.

Mr. Bledsoe, a resolution requesting an early report from the committee on Federal relations upon matters referred to them and upon the bill to put the State in condition of defence.

Mr. Pitchford, resolutions passed by Warren county. Mr. P. said he was present at this meeting—it was large and enthusiastic; that Warren county was fully aware of the deplorable condition of the country, but not for slight causes to dissever her connection with the Union.

On Tuesday, a message from the Governor transmitting a report as to the Chesapeake and Albemarle Canal Co. from the State's attorney in some matters connected with it, suggested the appointment of a new attorney, resident in Raleigh. Another message recommended favorable consideration of an accompanying memorial from John H. Haughton and others probably relating to Deep River.

The Chair announced the following committee on Agriculture:—Messrs. Dockery, Lane, Shaw, Speed, Watson, Dowd and Grist.

The House proposition of a joint committee to superintend public printing was tabled (defeated, by mail) a strict party vote.

Mr. Ramsay introduced resolutions, calling on the Treasurer to report as early as practicable his opinion as to the policy of this State making an increase of the present indebtedness, either by appropriations in aid of internal improvement or for placing the State on a war footing; also what amount can be raised at this time either for meeting obligations or for warlike purposes. Tabled on Mr. Avery's motion.

Mr. Hall introduced a bill for the appointment of an additional inspector of flour and provisions in the town of Wilmington. Rules suspended and passed.

On Wednesday, the Speaker presented a communication from the W. C. and R. Railroad Company.

Mr. Walkup, a memorial from the Military Convention, lately held at Salisbury; re-organization of the militia.

Mr. Hall, a bill for a Mechanic's lien law.

Mr. Thomas of Davidson, presented the following resolutions:

Resolved by the General Assembly, That ——— be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners, on the part of the State of North Carolina, to attend the convention of the State of South Carolina, to be held in Columbia on the 17th inst., with power and authority to confer with said convention and other authorities of the State, with the view of preventing our sister State to suspend further action in regard to the pending difficulties between the North and the South, until an effort can be made by the Southern States and such Northern States as shall assent to the measure, to call a convention of all the United States to obtain, in a constitutional way, proper assurances and guarantees, that the rights of the slaveholding States will be from after be fully respected and protected.

Mr. Thomas said that he thought it proper to do, if possible, to arrest the contemplated course of South Carolina, and was proceeding to address the Senate in favor of it, but gave way as it was the hour for adjournment.

On Thursday, Mr Harris of Chatham presented a memorial from the C. F. and D. R. Nav. Company.

Mr. Blount, secession resolutions from Pitt. Mr. Ramsay, similar resolutions from Rowan, saying that in his opinion they did not represent the views of the majority. Mr. Avery, similar resolutions from Mr. Dowell. Whereupon,

Hon. Bedford Brown spoke at length in opposition to secession, and denying that the resolutions presented embodied the feelings of one tenth of the people. He had been among his constituents during the past few days, and they were opposed to hasty action—the people of Caswell were in favor of imitating the glorious example of our revolutionary sires in deliberating on these questions with calmness, of demanding their rights in the Union, and guarantees for the protection of their property from the North before venturing to dissolve that glorious compact framed by our fathers. The Southern States should confer solemnly together on all important subject, as the same lot of weal or woe would fall on them all alike in case of their secession. North Carolina should be consulted, and no State should secede without this common consultation—they should together demand their rights, and in the event of failure, act together as brethren. Gentlemen who had supported Mr. Breckinridge during the late campaign had not only said they were not advocating disunion, but that the election of Lincoln was not sufficient cause for disunion, but had repelled the charge as an infamous slander. He had not heard one of them say that the election of Lincoln was sufficient cause for a dissolution of the Union before the election; but on Wednesday evening had heard doctrines avowed in a meeting in the Commons Hall, by an Elector, certainly not avowed during the canvass. If it had been generally so avowed and believed, he did not believe the Breckinridge ticket would have received 20,000 votes in North Carolina. Was this good faith to the people?

Mr. B. said it was unjust that citizens who would not fall in with hot haste into the ranks of secession should be branded as submissionists; he was emphatically a State's rights man, and the word submission was not in his political vocabulary. The secession of one State did not necessarily make it wise or expedient for other Southern States to go with her. He was not for the recreant submission that would surrender the federal government to the bidding of Wendall Phillips, Garrison, Massachusetts, and the British crew. It was more valiant to fight them in the Union. The statutes of the federal government protecting slavery were stronger to-day than ever before. The opposition to Republicanism has a large majority in the two Houses of Congress, and is likely to have for years to come. The Supreme Court is on the side of the South.

Mr. B. concluded by saying that he did not believe that there was one in forty in the State in favor of secession without first having made a demand for guarantees from the North.

Mr. Avery replied, that the mere election of a President was no cause for dissolution, but the election of a sectional candidate on the platform of principles as laid down by the Republican party, was, when coupled with the continued aggression of that party on the rights of the South. The North will never give any

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

MONDAY EVENING. DECEMBER 10, 1860.

Mr Hall introduced a bill authorizing Washington Harris, Sheriff of Franklin, to collect arrears of taxes.

Mr Winstead, "A bill to incorporate the Bank of Roxborough."

Mr Street, "A bill to incorporate the Lake Ellis Company." All appropriately referred.

Leave of absence until Thursday next was granted to Mr Hardie of Franklin and Mr Burton of Cleveland. Until Monday next to Mr Arendell of Carteret.

Mr Speight, from the Committee on Corporations, reported back several unimportant bills.

Messages were received from the House transmitting the reports of the Bank of Fayetteville and the Commercial Bank of Wilmington; and concurring in the Senate's proposal to raise a joint Committee, for comparing the vote given at the August election.

The Speaker appointed Messrs. Simpson and Barringer as the Senate branch of that Committee.

Mr Turner offered a resolution "to encourage Home Industry and Manufactures," which after a brief discussion, was laid on the table, on motion of Mr Bledsoe.

Mr Turner moved that his resolution be taken from the table—lost.

Mr Turner inquired of Mr Outlaw when the Committee on Federal Relations would report. Mr. Outlaw could not inform him

"A bill to prevent the felling of Timber on certain streams in Iredell Co," passed its second reading, and the Senate adjourned. No news of interest.

RALEIGH Dec. 8.

MESSRS EDITORS.—Mr. Speaker Clark laid before the Senate, a memorial from a public meeting held in Edgecombe Co. Referred

Mr Walker from the Committee on Education, reported a bill to incorporate the Edinburgh Female Academy, in Montgomery Co., recommending its passage.

A message was received from the House transmitting a letter from the Governor, with the report of the Treasurer of the University. On motion of Mr. Ramsay, read, ordered to be printed, and referred.

A message from the House transmitted the following bills announcing their passage in that body:

A bill to prohibit the emancipation of slaves by will; and a bill to amend an act entitled an act to incorporate the Town of Charlotte. The first was, on motion of Mr. Speight, referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A mess the Senate adjourned to the Hall of the House of Commons to execute the joint order for comparing the vote in the Gubernatorial election. Mr. Ferebee, from the Committee, reported that John W. Ellis had received 59,463 votes; John Pool 53,123

The Senate returned to its Chamber.

Mr Thomas of Jackson, from the Committee on Internal Improvements reported a bill to amend the charter of the Western N. C. Railroad, recommending its passage.

On motion of Mr. Outlaw leave of absence was granted to Mr. Hall of New Hanover until Wednesday next.

Mr Gist introduced a bill to incorporate Bellevue Academy in the county of Beaufort. Passed 1st reading.

The Senate then adjourned.

In the Commons, on Monday, Mr. Gorrell offered a resolution to rescind the order for printing the Gov's Message, as every body had read it long ago in the newspapers. Mr. Hill said that the printing was now finished and ought to be paid for, and moved to table Mr. G's resolution. Adopted. Another resolution on the same subject led to a long discussion and various propositions to expedite the movements of the public printer; and finally a resolution was adopted to appoint a joint committee to superintend the printing.

Mr. Padgett offered a resolution for the election of Justices of the peace by the people.

The following bills were read the first time and referred:

A Bill introduced by Mr. Cowles, concerning the public printing.

By Mr. Cheek, to prevent free negroes from hiring or having control of slaves.

By Mr. Wright, authorizing the sureties of Jno. S. Wills, late Sheriff of Bladen, to collect arrearages of taxes.

By Mr. Padgett, to amend the 3d section of the 4th article of the Constitution.

By Mr. Kelly, to place on equal footing the creditors of deceased insolvent debtors.

Bills on second reading, that to abolish the office of State Geologist, was passed over informally.

That exempting watches and time pieces of employes on railroads from taxation, on motion of Mr. Taylor, indefinitely postponed.

On Tuesday, Mr. Baxter presented a memorial from Currituck county, in favor of the removal of free negroes from the State.

Mr. Person from the Judiciary committee reported on a number of bills, recommending the passage of one to prevent the emancipation of slaves by will (which thereupon passed 2d and 3d readings;) and one regulating registers' fees. Against one exempting certain property from execution.

Mr. Person, from the select committee on the organization of the House, [investigating the manner of organization by the Clerk,] reported that all the acts of the House are legal, and asks further time for the consideration of the matter referred to them.

Mr. Hill introduced a bill to incorporate the Caswell Railroad Company, to build a railroad from Milton to the Company's Shops on the N. C. Road.

Mr. Hoke, a bill for the better organization of the militia.

Mr. Potts, a bill to incorporate the Chatham Mining Company.

Mr. Cheek, a bill to amend the Revised Code, chap. 57, sec. 1, entitled "idiots and lunatics."

Mr. Ferguson, a bill to amend the Revised Code, chapter 107, sec. 66, concerning free negroes having guns, &c.

A resolution was offered by Mr. Merrimon, for the manufacture of arms, at some point on Deep River. Referred to the committee on military affairs.

On Wednesday, Mr. Blue presented a memorial from citizens of Rockingham praying the enactment of a law forbidding the sale of spiritous liquors within two miles of said town.

Mr. Rogers, a resolution from the State Agricultural Society in favor of Prof. Emmons. On his motion, referred (with the whole matter of Geology,) to a joint select committee.

Mr. Foy, a bill to charter the New River Canal Company in Onslow.—appropriates $10,000 State aid.

Mr. Shober, a bill to repeal chap. 61, sec. 37, of the Revised Code.

Mr. Hoke, a bill for arming the State, provides that the Governor shall be empowered to purchase muskets, bayonets, powder, ball cartridges, and percussion caps, and appropriates for this purpose, $170,000; requires the Governor to collect the arms already belonging to the State and have them repaired—appropriating $20,000; to purchase 500,000 pounds saltpetre and 50,000 pounds of sulphur, and appropriates $100,000 for that purpose; gives a bonus of $25,000 to any individual or company who shall establish a powder factory, and guarantee to supply the State with the amount of powder it may demand.

Mr. Courts was this day re-elected Treasurer; and Edward Vail of Sampson Engrossing Clerk.

On Thursday, Mr Shober presented a memorial from Greensborough, asking an amendment of charter.

Mr Burgin, the McDowell resolutions.

Mr Howard, a resolution concerning tax on liquors.

Mr Hayes, a bill for the completion of Western Turnpike roads—appropriates the bonds for Cherokee lands, not otherwise directed, for that purpose.

Mr Taylor, a bill for the protection of Haywood academy—forbids the sale of spiritous liquors within two and a half miles.

Mr Guthrie, a bill to incorporate the University Railroad company.

Mr Haynes, a bill to amend charter of Thomasville: forbids sale of spirits without license from town authorities.

Motions by Messrs Henry and Crumpler to take up bills to amend the Constitution were defeated by party votes.

Mr Folk's bill to abolish the office of State Geologist was referred to the select committee, after a speech from Mr F. in its favor. He said the office was one of more expense than profit—the Geologist had never been in the counties west of the mountains but once, and then his trip through that region was so much like the flight of a red fox, that he had been gone three months before the people knew he had been there.

Bills exempting certain property from execution, and appropriating the school fund for 10 years to the use of indigent children, and for raising tax to keep up public roads, bridges, &c., were indefinitely postponed.

In the Commons, on Friday, Mr Clark of Craven offered a resolution to prevent slaves from hiring their own time.

Mr Henry, a resolution for the appointment of a joint committee to inquire and report what the public printing has cost the State to the present time. Adopted.

Mr Polk, a bill to amend chap. 28, sec. 1, of the Revised Code.

Mr White, a bill to ascertain the voice of the people with regard to amending the Constitution.

Mr Shober, a bill to incorporate the Gibson Hill Mining Company.

Mr Foust, a bill concerning the partition of real estate in the county of Randolph.

Mr Wishart a bill for the suspension of the execution laws for the term of two years.

Bills to refund certain Bank taxes, and to appoint another inspector at Wilmington, passed 2d reading.

That to regulate registers' fees indefinitely postponed.

Office Hunting.—There were about 70 persons present at Albany as candidates for the appointment of Messenger, to carry the Electoral vote of New York to Washington, and 12 or 15 of the Electors themselves were anxious for the place.

A Water Panic.—The main pipes which convey the Croton water into New York burst on Wednesday night last, and cannot be repaired for several days. There was consternation on all hands. Water had to be transported in carts across the river from Brooklyn.

THE MESSAGE.—We printed this important document on Thursday without comment, having no time to do more than get it in type for the mails of that day.

It seems to satisfy moderate men North and South, as we think in the main it ought. But extremists of both sections denounce it. And unfortunately the President is so odious that his name carries no influence, but rather damages his positions. All Southern men concur in his views as to the wrongs of the North against the South, and his demand that they shall be remedied. Very few think that the Union can stand, or ought to stand, if they be not remedied. But violent men at the North appear to have fired up against this portion of the message; and the prospects look far more gloomy than they did a week ago. Some of the Republican papers, which were evidently giving up their extreme notions, and suggesting compromises, are now bitterly opposed to giving way to any extent, alleging that the North is called upon for an entire sacrifice, and the South for nothing in the way of remedy for alleged aggressions. The N. Y. Electoral College resolved unanimously against the proposal of Thurlow Weed's Albany Journal to re-establish the Missouri Compromise and pay for fugitives. On the other hand, Clingman attacked the message; and his associate fire-eaters, all laboring with the abolitionists in the cause of disunion, refused to vote for its reference to a committee of one from each State. On this proposition 52 members did not vote at all, nearly all of them being present, many giving as a reason that their States were holding Conventions to secede, and they took no interest in the question. Of the N. C. members, the four Whigs and Messrs. Winslow and Branch voted to refer. Messrs. Craige and Ruffin did not vote. 38 of the worst abolitionists voted against the reference.

The debates in the Senate are also inflammatory. And things look less and less hopeful.

There is one point in the Message from which we dissent most decidedly. It is the President's picture of the alarm of the matrons of the South. This appears to have been greatly exaggerated to him. Probably he has been lending a credulous ear to some garrulous old woman. No thanks, however, to the vile fanatics for the failure of the picture to be literally true.

We concur in the President's view that secession is revolution. And it cannot be peaceful. Wars will inevitably follow it. And any State that proposes to secede, or to revolt, may as well prepare itself with armed men and money, for they will assuredly be needed.

We agree with him also that the election of Lincoln is not sufficient cause for revolution; that we should wait till he assails our rights—in the meantime using all proper efforts for the restoration of peace by a removal of the unfriendly acts of legislation by the North, every one of which has existed throughout the reign of Democratic Presidents. If they furnish ground for revolution, that ground has existed for years. Yet the Democrats have allowed them quietly to exist. Why? Because the possession of the spoils was a sufficient offset?

As to amending the Constitution, we have long considered that hopeless. In our young days, propositions to amend were presented by scores at every session of Congress. Gradually it became manifest that such a thing is impracticable; and now for a number of years we do not remember to have seen one such proposal. We doubt also whether a successful attempt to amend it would not be the greatest evil for the South. It is far more apt to be made worse than better. And it is good enough as it is if it can only be enforced.

THE ELECTORAL COLLEGES.—Wednesday last was the day fixed by law for the Presidential Electors to assemble and cast their votes.

This is usually a mere formality, as the people of each State have previously decided for whom their votes should be cast. But in this case there has been a most remarkable departure from the customary form of registering the Electoral votes according to the preferences of those who were officially declared to be chosen Electors. This departure occurred in Virginia, where the six Breckinridge Electors did not appear, but left their places to be filled by the nine Bell Electors. This is as extraordinary a case as it is honorable to five of the six, who would not condescend to avail themselves of an election obtained solely by the stupidity of the returning officers, who deprived six Bell Electors of their majorities by writing the initials of their names incorrectly.

In 1708 there was a case of a change of these formal votes, the result of which was the election of Mr. Jefferson, instead of C. C. Pinckney, as Vice President.

On Tuesday last, the day before the meeting of the Electoral Colleges, Alex. Hamilton of N. Y. (son of the great Statesman of that name,) addressed an earnest appeal to the Electors of the States of New York and Pennsylvania to save the country from its present peril by discarding Lincoln and voting for Wm. A Graham of North Carolina, the effect of which would have been to throw the election into the House of Representatives, with Lincoln, Breckinridge and Graham to be voted for there, with a certainty that the House would choose Gov. Graham. Mr. Hamilton justly describes Gov. Graham as "a gentleman of the highest character against whom neither envy nor prejudice could find cause for detraction or dissatisfaction." Of course no hope of such action could be reasonably entertained. As the N. Y. World said of it:—

"It is too late to bring about such an arrangement, even if it were not intrinsically objectionable. The fact that it is seriously proposed by a gentleman of honor and character, betokens his deep sense of the impending danger."

CLINGMAN AND HALE.—It is a significant fact, which we commend to the attention of the Democrats in our Legislature, that Mr Clingman was the first man in Congress to assail the President's Message, and that the fanatical Hale of New Hampshire was the second. These two worthies have joined hands to denounce a Democratic President's strongly Southern message! Was it for such a purpose that the Democrats of North Carolina sent Mr. Clingman to the Senate? Will the Legislature send him there again to assist Hale and his associates in breaking the Union? If they should, in our opinion there are conservatives enough among the Democratic masses in North Carolina to make those who vote for him rue the day in which they perpetrated such a wrong to the State and the Union.

THE CAUSE OF TROUBLE.—The following paragraph which closes a Washington letter to the Baltimore American, explaining the motives actuating two Senators, gives a fair idea of one great cause of all our sectional troubles—*the lust for office.* To obtain it, wretched creatures in each section have made sectional issues, prevented their settlement, and even now when ruin stares the country in the face "the work goes bravely on:"—

"Mr. Clingman, of North Carolina, who expressed his disgust with the Union so strongly yesterday, remained quiet to-day. He, like Mr. Iverson, is a candidate for re-election, and it is strongly surmised that both of these gentlemen are endeavoring to out-Herod opposing candidates in truckling to the madness of the hour that prevails in their respective Legislatures now in session. Secretary Cobb is the opposing candidate of Mr. Iverson."

NOT TRUE.—The N. Y. Times misleads its readers when it asserts that under the fugitive slave law "more than once free colored citizens of the North have been sent into slavery," and that this has "afforded the pretext for the personal liberty laws, and in the view of tens of thousands of our citizens made them absolutely necessary." Where is the proof that this ever occurred, even once? We deny it. But the Times cannot deny that personal liberty laws and other obstructions at the North have prevented the restoration of millions of dollars worth of Southern property which Northern men enticed away and have harbored.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.—A meeting in Columbus County on the 1st inst. adopted resolutions in favor of retaliatory legislation, a State Convention, a conference with the Southern States, and approving "every word and sentiment in the message of Gov. Ellis on federal relations."

There was a meeting in Duplin on the same day. The resolutions are in favor of "a Southern Confederacy," thoroughly arming and drilling 10,000 men or more, at the expense of the State, and a re-organization of the militia.

In Brunswick there was a meeting on the 3d inst. "United aid and support" was pledged "whenever our State shall determine to exercise the acknowledged right of withdrawal of her delegated powers from the general government."

At a meeting in Pasquotank on the 3d inst., after a long debate, strong Union resolutions were adopted by a very large majority.

THE UNITED STATES STOPPED PAYMENT!—In the midst of all other troubles the Treasury is empty. Large amounts due are lying over, including the wages of some hundreds of seamen, who have been discharged at New York without their pay. The Congressmen have been paid in part only.

MONEY MATTERS AND BUSINESS.—Last Wednesday and Thursday were "blue days" in the N. Y. money market. All kinds of stocks tumbled; Virginia down to 76, Tennessee 72½, Missouri 66. Bank and Railroad stocks correspondingly low. The interest on second class paper, (houses esteemed wealthy,) was 18 to 30 per cent.

The Massachusetts shoe makers are failing; business never known to be so dull and flat; and many workmen discharged.

At Richmond, Va., several large failures have occurred, many workmen have been discharged, and employers have resorted to working short time.

PERSONAL LIBERTY LAWS.—A citizen of Indiana denies, through the Washington Constitution, that that State ever passed a personal Liberty law, nullifying the fugitive slave law. He adds, that in every instance the fugitive law has been promptly enforced in that State.

And a citizen of Iowa makes a similar denial as to his State through the National Intelligencer.

DOUBTED.—It has been telegraphed from Washington, that—

"Mr. Leach, of North Carolina, says his State will stand by the Union under all circumstances."

We don't believe that Mr. Leach ever said any thing of the kind. If he did, we think he will find few in North Carolina to agree with him. We certainly, though desiring to exhaust all proper and peaceful remedies to preserve the Union, do not endorse the remark attributed, unjustly, we doubt not, to Mr. Leach.

A MISTAKE.—The Newbern Progress hears from a prominent member of our Legislature that there is "now before the Senate a letter from the Governor of South Carolina accompanied by a series of resolutions passed by the Legislature of that State, proposing a conference with North Carolina and calling on us to make common cause with them." The said letter and resolutions are more than a year old. Instead of such a movement at present, the Governor and the papers of South Carolina now distinctly repudiate the idea of a conference with any State.

THE SCATTERED FRAGMENTS.—A Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Express predicts, that if all the cotton States secede, a central confederacy will be formed, consisting of the Eastern half of New York, the Southern portions of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, (perhaps the whole of those States,) and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, Michigan, Missouri, and Delaware,—with the capital at Washington.

This would make three separate Confederacies, Eastern, Central, and Southern. It is, however, more likely that there will be a dozen.

MR. STEPHENS'S SPEECH—has been extensively published and has attracted universal admiration. At Washington a subscription was on foot to print a million of copies for gratuitous distribution. Mr. Douglas endorsed every word of it, and the Georgia Platform, in a speech at Washington a few days ago.

A letter from Mr. Stephens to a friend in New York is published in the Journal of Commerce, from which we extract as follows—

"When this Union is dissevered, if of necessity it must be, I see at present but little prospect of good government afterwards. *At the North I feel confident, anarchy will soon ensue.* And whether we shall be better off at the South, will depend upon many things that I am not now satisfied that we have any assurance of. Revolutions are much easier started than controlled, and the men who begin them, even for the best purposes and objects, seldom end them.

The American Revolution of 1776 was one of the few exceptions to this remark that the history of the world furnishes. Human passions are like the winds; when aroused, they sweep everything before them in their fury. The wise and the good who may attempt to control them, will themselves most likely become the victims. This has been the history of the downfall of all Republics. The selfish, the ambitious and the bad will generally take the lead. When the moderate men who are patriotic have gone as far as they think right and proper, and propose to reconstruct, then will be found a class below them, governed by no principle, but personal objects, who will be for pushing matters further and further, until those who sowed the winds, will find that they have reaped the whirlwind. These are my serious apprehensions. They are founded upon the experience of the world and the philosophy of human nature, and no wise man should condemn them. To tear down and build up again, are very different things, and before tearing down even a bad government we should first see a good prospect for building up a better."

Several communications (including the proceedings of a public meeting on Saturday evening) and the Premium List of the Robeson County Agricultural Fair, are unavoidably crowded out to-day.

MARRIED,

In this County, on the night of the 5th inst., by W. Alderman, Esq., JOSEPH CONADY to Miss REBECCA JANE ANDERSON.

In Wadesboro', on the 28th ult., by the Rev. S. Davenport, RICHARD H. BATTLE, Esq., to Miss ANNIE R. daughter of Thomas S. Ashe, Esq.

Near Morven, in Anson county, on the 13th of November, by W. T. Williams, Esq., Mr. ELIJAH N. LILES to Miss MARTHA ANN PRATT, all of that county.

On the 29th ult., in Robeson county, by Rev. F. K Nash, Mr. ALEX. M. COBE, to Miss FLORA CATHARINE WALKER.

By S. E. Johnson, Esq., on the 22d ult., Dr. JOHN McNEILL to Miss MARY E. BLUE, daughter of A. M. Blue, Esq., all of Moore County.

In Harnett county, on the 15th ult., by R. C. Belden, Esq., Mr. RANDAL M. CAMERON to Miss MARY E., daughter of Mr. Samuel Cameron, all of Harnett Co.

On Sunday morning, the 2d inst., by John Harper, Esq., Mr. REUBEN WEAVER to Miss KIZIAH INGRAM, daughter of Sam'l Ingram, dec'd, all of Johnston County, N. C.

DIED,

In Robeson county, on the 15th ult., JOHN MORRISON, in the 81st year of his age

In Edenton, N. C., on the 25th November 1860, Major-General DUNCAN McDONALD, in the 77th year of his age. He was the oldest native born citizen of Edenton. He had command of the North Carolina forces at Fort Norfolk, in Virginia, during the late war with England, and acquitted himself with commendable zeal and ability. He had filled the station of Major-General of the first division of North Carolina Militia during the last forty eight years.

On 27th Nov., at Mt. Vernon, Chatham county, Rev. THOMAS S. YARBROUGH, aged 34 years.

In Caswell county, on the 2d inst., RICHARD YARBROUGH, Esq., aged about 68 years.

White Potash, just received by

S. J. HINSDALE & CO.

Nov. 7, 1860. 67tf

THE SECTIONAL TROUBLES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—A better feeling exists to-day among the Congressmen generally. The Southerners are consulting in reference to the present and future positions of the South. It is believed that a strong movement is being initiated outside of Congress, as foreshadowed in the National Intelligencer's leader of this morning. All the members of the Select Committee have agreed to serve, except Mr. Boyce of S. C., and Mr. Hawkins of Florida.

From the N. Y. Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The Committee will report each proposition separately, as agreed on, beginning with that of fugitive Slaves. This, it is believed, will strengthen the conservative party in the Gulf States, and prevent separate secession.

It is thought that a division will arise between the Republican members of the Committee. It is understood that Corwin, Campbell, Morse, Kellogg and Stratton, will propose a compromise, which they think will not degrade the Republican Party nor the North, and that the more radical men will differ from them. The extremists of both sections will oppose a compromise in the Committee, but the conservatives have a majority. Mr. Corwin is preparing resolutions, which, if adopted, he thinks will settle all difficulties and save the Union.

From the Baltimore American.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—A majority of the committee are Republicans. They stand as follows: Moderate Republicans 7; Helper Book Republicans 8; Avowed Disunionists 3; Democrats 12; Americans 3.

This, at first sight appears a gloomy prospect, but when it is remembered that the concessions are to come from the Republican side, it is undoubtedly about as good a committee as could have been formed. Mr. Pennington has selected his committee-men with a special view to harmony, compromise and concession. Mr. Corwin has a proposition, which, it is said, has received the sanction and approval of Mr. Lincoln, to present to the Committee. Mr. Millson of Virginia is also said to have a proposition, which will satisfy all the South except South Carolina and Alabama.

The opinion is gaining ground here that the efforts making to restrain the precipitancy of South Carolina will be successful, and that she will consent to wait a little while for consultation with her sister States. As the hour approaches for cutting loose, the eyes and thoughts of the people of that State are cast on the future, with its free trade and direct taxes, its military government, and perhaps the revulsion from a republic to a sovereignty. When passion rules it is dangerous to look ahead.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Dec. 7.—In the Legislature to-day, Mr. Fulton offered resolutions requesting the Georgia Congressmen to propose to Congress to appoint Commissioners, on the part of the North and South, to provide for the peaceable dissolution of the Union, and equitable division of the public property between both sections.

MONTGOMERY, Dec. 7.—Mr. Yancey declines going as Commissioner to South Carolina. Judge Elmore will go. Judge Shorter will go to Georgia. Commissioners will be sent to all the States that hold conventions.

There is no doubt of the secession of Alabama with or without South Carolina.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 6.—The City Councils to-day adopted resolutions requesting the Mayor to call a public meeting of citizens irrespective of party to express their adhesion to the Union

From New Orleans.—There is no improvement in affairs here; but, on the contrary, matters are worse. Business is almost at a dead lock, while quite a number of suspensions have taken place. The distrust of the future that exists is almost without a parallel, and it is feared the worst is yet to come.

Vote of Louisiana.—For Mr. Breckinridge, 22,147; For Mr. Bell, 19,711; For Mr. Douglas, 7,620.

Vote of Rhode Island.—Lincoln, 12,024; Douglas, 7,536; scattering, 24.

N. C. Conference.—The session begun at Salisbury on Wednesday last; Bishop Paine presiding. On that day the following Probationers of one year, were continued on Probation: Webb, Culbreth, Kingsbury and Wood.

The following young men were elected to Deacon's orders: John C. Brent, John R. Brooks, Robert A. Willis, Benjamin F. Guthrie, Perley H. Scoville, John W. Jenkins, Wm. H. Wheeler.

Grand Lodge of F. & A. M.—At the annual Grand Communication of F. & A. Masons at Raleigh on Monday last, the following officers were elected: Louis S. Williams, Charlotte, Grand Master; James E. Allen, Wake, Senior Warden; C. C. Clark, Newbern, Junior Warden; C. W. Hutchings, Raleigh, Treasurer; Wm. T. Bain, Raleigh, Secretary; James M. Wynn, Murfreesboro, Senior Deacon; R. T. Hall, Wadesboro', Junior Deacon; B. F. Benton, Raleigh, Tyler; E. W. Ward, Jacksonville, appointed Deputy Grand Master.

State Journal.

FAYETTEVILLE MARKET.—December 10.

BACON,	13	a 15	IRON—		
BEESWAX,	28	a 30	Swedes, com. bar	6	a 6½
CANDLES, F. F.	18	a	Ditto, wide	7	a 7½
Adamantine	25	a 30	American	5½	a 6
Sperm	45	a 55	English	4	a 4½
COFFEE—Rio	15	a 16	LARD,	14	a 15
Laguira	17	a 18	LEAD,	8½	a
Java	18	a 20	MOLASSES—		
COTTON—			Cuba	28	a 30
Fair to good	8½	a 9	N. Orleans	50	a 00
Ordin. to mid.	6½	a 7	OIL—Linseed	1 00	a 0 00
COTTON BAGGING—			Tanner's	70	a 1 00
Gunny	17	a 20	SALT—		
Dundee	17	a 20	Liv. Sack	1 50	a 0 00
COTTON YARN—			Alum	50	a 0 00
No. 5 to 10	1 00	a 1 05	FLAXSEED,	1 15	a 1 20
DOMESTIC GOODS—			SHOT—		
Bro. Sheetings	8	a 9	Com. pr. bag	2	00
Osnaburgs	10½	a 11½	Buck	2	12½
FEATHERS,	45	a 50	SPIRITS—		
FLOUR—			P. Brandy	1 25	a 1 30
Family	6 75	a 7 00	N. C. Apple	60	a 0 65
Super.	6 50	a 6 75	Northern do.	55	a 0 65
Fine	6 25	a 6 50	N. C. Whiskey	65	a 0 70
Scratched	6 00	a 6 25	Northern do.	31	a 37½
GRAIN—			SUGARS—		
Corn	80	a 90	Loaf	13	a 13½
Wheat	1 40	a 1 50	Crushed	12	a 13
Rye	1 00	a	Coffee	10½	a 11
Oats	45	a 50	Porto Rico	9½	a 10
Peas	1 00	a 1 15	New Orleans	8½	a 9½
FERTILIZERS.			TALLOW,	10	a 00
Guano, ton,	$65	a $70	WOOL,	19	a 20
Nat. Fertilizer,	32 50	a $35	TURPENTINE—		
Do. per 100 lbs.	1 62½	a 1 75	Yellow dip	1 35	a
HIDES—Dry	12½	a 14	Virgin,	1 00	a
Green	5	a 6	Hard	60	a 00
NAILS,	4½	a 5	Spirits	24	a 26

REVIEW OF THE MARKET

Cotton—We note a further decline since Thursday.
Flour—No change; receipts light.
Turpentine and Spirits—Have continued to decline.
Corrected by B. F. PEARCE.

WILMINGTON MARKET.—Dec. 8, 1860.

Turpentine, Yellow 1 75, Virgin 1 40, Hard 90. Spirits, straight 28, N Y bbls. 30. Tar 1 50. Cotton, low to good middling 8½ to 9¼. Pea Nuts 1 15 to 1 35. No other transactions. During week, last sales of common rosin at 80. No other transactions.

At New York, Cotton dull and unsettled. Flour declined 10 cts; Southern nominal. Wheat and corn dull and declining. Spirits dull at 32 to 33. Rosin dull at 1 20.

At Cheraw, Cotton 7½ to 9½. Flour 8½ to 8½.

To Measure.

WHILE we are closing up our business we will for a very small advance, make to measure, Coats, Pants, Vests and Shirts. Call and leave your orders with

O. S. BALDWIN & CO.

Dec'r 10.—1t 21 Hay St.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—The Asia, from Queenstown on the 25th November, arrived to-day.

Hostilities had re-commenced in China. The Allies were before Pekin.

Affairs in Italy were unchanged.

The Empress Eugenie had arrived in Scotland; visiting the Duke of Hamilton

Commercial.—Estimated sales of Cotton, on Saturday, 10,000 bales. Quotations unchanged. Flour dull and declined sixpence. Wheat declined 1@2d. Provisions dull.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

ARRIVALS.

Lutterloh's Line. Dec'r 7 and 8, Strs North Carolina and Fanny, with Goods for Holmes & Faulk, R E Heide, A N McDonald, W & T Culbreth, J Martine, G W Williams & Co, R Mitchell, R D Davis, J H Hall, Cagle & Bro, Fay Mills, G Brandt, G McNeill, J R Lee.

GRAND "UNION MEETING" IN UPPER ROBESON.

ON FRIDAY the 21st Dec., (inst.,) there will be a "Grand Union Rally," at the upper Cross Roads, in Robeson County, at the residence of Wm. H. Baily, on the Camden Stage road.

The following speakers have been invited, and are expected to attend, viz: Col. N. A. McLean, T. A. Norment, Giles Leitch, Esqs., Robeson, Col. John W. Cameron, O. H. Dockery, Esqs., Richmond, together with several others.

The public generally, and the citizens of Robeson are *particularly* requested to attend.

Dec. 5. MANY UNION MEN.

Union Meeting in Johnston.

ON Saturday, the 22d inst., there will be a meeting of the friends of the Union in Smithfield. All Union men are invited to attend and give their aid in the maintenance of the Union. MANY CITIZENS.

Dec'r 1, 1860. 76-

Harnett County.

THE citizens of Harnett county without respect to party, are invited to meet at Summerville, on Tuesday the 11th inst., to consider the present condition of public affairs. MANY CITIZENS.

Dec. 8. 76-

NOTICE.

APPLICATION will be made to the present Session of the Legislature of North Carolina, for a bill to incorporate the Trustees of a Scientific Institute—devoted to the encouragement of Mechanic Arts, or Home Manufacture, Agriculture, and Military Tactics, to be located in Cumberland County, N. C.

Dec. 10.—77-3t REFORMATION.

FAYETTEVILLE

Female High School.

TERMS.

Board per Session of 20 weeks,	$60 00
Tuition in Collegiate Classes 20 weeks,	20 00
" " Academic " " "	15 00
" " Primary " " "	12 00
Incidental expenses,	1 00

Tuition in Music, Painting, Drawing, Modern and Ancient Languages, &c. at the usual rates.

☞One-half of Board and Tuition required *in advance;* the other half at the close of the Session.

SCHOLASTIC YEAR.

1st Session.—1st Quarter commences 1st October.
2d " " " 10th December.
2d Session.—1st Quarter " 20th February.
2d " " " 1st May.
Vacation " 10th July.

J. DeB. & T. C. HOOPER,
Associate Principals.

Dec'r 8, 1860. 77tf

A TEACHER WANTED,

TO TAKE CHARGE of the Edinboro' Academy, as Principal, for the next year, and longer, if mutual satisfaction is given.

The next session will commence about the 15th Jan'y next, and the Trustees desire to engage a competent teacher by that time.

This is a *mixed* School and is intended to be one of high grade, where ladies and gentlemen can receive a thorough education.

Two young Ladies have been employed to teach Music and the Ornamentals, and assist in the Preparatory department.

The School is yet in its infancy, having been only ten months in operation, (two sessions.)

From its pleasant and healthy location, in a moral and intelligent neighborhood, and its present flourishing condition, a successful future is anticipated.

A teacher who has had some experience would be preferred, and none need apply, unless they have undoubted testimonials as to character and ability.

A liberal salary will be given, with choice to take the profits of the School.

For more particulars, address the "Trustees of Edinboro' Academy" at Edinboro', Montgomery Co., N. C.

Nov 26. 77-2t*

EDUCATIONAL.

A YOUNG LADY, a graduate of Floral College, N C., who has had two years experience in teaching, wishes a situation in the Literary Department in a College or High School, or would take the sole charge of a suitable school.

The most satisfactory testimonials will be given.

For further information address Rev. DANIEL JOHNSON, Floral College, N. C.

Dec. 7. 77*tf

WANTED,

A SITUATION as Teacher in a Preparatory School, by a Southern Graduate. Good references given if required. For particulars address IRA T. WOODALL, Smithfield, N. C.

Dec'r 7. 77-4t*

KERNERSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL,

MALE AND FEMALE.

FORSYTH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.

Rev. T. S. WHITTINGTON, A. M., Principal.
Miss D. M. WHITTINGTON, Prin. Female Dep.

THE next session will commence the 11th of Jan'y 1861. Expenses per term of twenty-one weeks from $40 to $55.

The young ladies board in the Seminary with the Principals. Half the tuition in the male and half the expenses in the female department in advance. The remainder at the close of the session. High Point is the nearest depot. For full particulars write for a catalogue.

Dec'r 7. 77*2m

Fresh Goods.

I HAVE just received my FALL SUPPLY of GOODS, consisting in part of—

Layer Raisins, in whole, half and quarter boxes; Citron, Currants, Dates, Prunes, Figs, Preserved Canton Ginger, Dried Ginger, Cocoa and other Nuts, Sardines, Guava Jelly, Pickles and Preserves of all kinds, Catsups, Spiced Oysters, Lea & Perrin's Worcestershire Sauce, French Mustard.

A constant supply of

Plain, Fancy & French Candies.

Also, a large and well sell selected stock of

Toys and Fancy Articles,

suitable for the Christmas Holidays. With a great many articles not enumerated, which I will sell low for Cash. Mrs. M. BANKS.

Dec'r 10, 1860. 77-1m

Large Men Wanted,

TO BUY OVER COATS at COST for CASH. Call and save from 25 to 50 per cent., at

O. S BALDWIN & CO'S.

GENTS' UNDER-WEAR.

MERINO SHIRTS, 75 cents and upwards.
COTTON HALF HOSE, $1 50 per doz.
HANDSOME SILK TIES, 40 cents
OVER COATS, Four-Dollars and upwards.
CASSIMERE PANTS, Three Dollars and upwards.

If you would save money buy your

Clothing and Furnishing Goods at COST FOR CASH,

Of O. S. BALDWIN & CO. 21 Hay Street.

Buy a Pistol at a Reduced Price

of O. S. BALDWIN & CO.

For Rent.

THE pleasant and desirable Residence on Haymount, belonging to Mrs. Sophia H. McLean, is now offered for rent. Possession given the 1st of January 1861.

For terms apply to THOS. H. McLEAN.

Dec'r 7. 77-4t

NOTICE.

APPLICATION will be made to the present Legislature for a charter for the Tokay Wine Company of Fayetteville, N. C. Dec. 6.—76-2t

All other claims of citizens of the United States against Spain, or of subjects of the Queen of Spain against the U. S., including the "Amistad claim," were by this convention referred to a board of commissioners in the usual form. Neither the validity of the Amistad claim nor of any other claim against either party, with the single exception of the Cuban claims, was recognised by the convention. Indeed, the Spanish government did not insist that the validity of the Amistad claim should be thus recognised, notwithstanding its payment had been recommended to Congress by two of my predecessors as well as by myself, and an appropriation for that purpose had passed the Senate of the U. S. They were content that it should be submitted to the board for examination and decision, like the other claims. Both governments were bound respectively to pay the amounts awarded to the several claimants "at such times and places as may be fixed by and according to the tenor of said awards."

I transmitted this convention to the Senate for their constitutional action on the 3d May, 1860, and on the 27th of the succeeding June they determined that they would "not advise and consent" to its ratification.

These proceedings place our relations with Spain in an awkward and embarrassing position. It is more than probable that the final adjustment of these claims will devolve upon my successor.

I reiterate the recommendation contained in my Annual Message of December, 1858, and repeated in that of December, 1859, in favor of the acquisition of Cuba from Spain by fair purchase. I firmly believe that such an acquisition would contribute essentially to the well-being and prosperity of both countries in all future time, as well as prove the certain means of immediately abolishing the African slave-trade throughout the world. I would not repeat this recommendation upon the present occasion, if I believed that the transfer of Cuba to the U. S. upon conditions highly favorable to Spain, could justly tarnish the national honor of the proud and Ancient Spanish Monarchy. Surely no person ever attributed to the first Napoleon a disregard of the national honor of France, for transferring Louisiana to the U. S. for a fair equivalent both in money and commercial advantages.

AUSTRIA, &c.—With the Emperor of Austria, and the remaining continental powers of Europe, including that of the Sultan, our relations continue to be of the most friendly character.

CHINA.—The friendly and peaceful policy pursued by the Government of the U. S. towards the empire of China has produced the most satisfactory results. The treaty of Tientsin of the 18th of June, 1858, has been faithfully observed by the Chinese authorities. The convention of the 8th November, 1858, supplementary to this treaty, for the adjustment and satisfaction of the claims of our citizens on China, referred to in my last Annual Message, has been already carried into effect so far as this was practicable.

Under this convention the sum of 500,000 taels, equal to about $700,000, was stipulated to be paid in satisfaction of the claims of American citizens, out of the one-fifth of the receipts for tonnage import and export duties on American vessels at the ports of Canton, Shanghae and Fuchau, and it was "agreed that this amount shall be in full liquidation of all claims of American citizens at the various ports to this date." Debentures for this amount—to wit: 300,000 taels for Canton, 100,000 for Shanghae, and 100,000 for Fuchau—were delivered according to the terms of the convention by the respective Chinese collectors of the customs of these ports to the agent selected by our minister to receive the same.

Since that time the claims of our citizens have been adjusted by the board of commissioners appointed for that purpose under the act of March 3, 1859, and their awards, which proved satisfactory to the claimants, have been approved by our minister. In the aggregate they amount to the sum of $498,694 78. The claimants have already received a large proportion of the sums awarded to them out of the fund provided, and it is confidently expected that the remainder will ere long be entirely paid. After the awards shall have been satisfied, there will remain a surplus of more than $200,000 at the disposition of Congress. As this will in equity belong to the Chinese government, would not justice require its appropriation to some benevolent object in which the Chinese may be specially interested?

Our minister to China, in obedience to his instructions has remained perfectly neutral in the war between Great Britain and France and the Chinese empire; although in conjuction with the Russian minister, he was ever ready and willing, had the opportunity offered, to employ his good offices in restoring peace between the parties. It is but an act of simple justice, both to our present minister and his predecessor, to state, that they have proved fully equal to the delicate, trying, and responsible positions in which they have on different occasions been placed.

JAPAN.—The ratifications of the treaty with Japan concluded at Yedo on the 29th July, 1858, were exchanged at Washington on the 22d May last, and the treaty itself was proclaimed on the succeeding day. There is good reason to expect that, under its protection and influence, our trade and intercourse with that distant and interesting people will rapidly increase.

The ratifications of the treaty were exchanged with unusual solemnity. For this purpose the Tycoon had accredited three of his most distinguished subjects as envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary, who were received and treated with marked distinction and kindness both by the Government and people of the U. S. There is every reason to believe that they have returned to their native land entirely satisfied with their visit, and inspired by the most friendly feelings for our country. Let us ardently hope, in the language of the treaty itself, that "there shall henceforward be perpetual peace and friendship between the U. S. of America and his Majesty the Tycoon of Japan and his successors."

BRAZIL.—With the wise, conservative, and liberal governments of the empire of Brazil our relations continue to be of the most amicable character.

NEW GRANADA.—The exchange of the ratification of the convention with the republic of New Granada, signed at Washington on the 10th Sept. 1857, has been long delayed from accidental causes, for which neither party is censurable. These ratifications were duly exchanged in this city on the 5th of Nov'r last. Thus has a controversy been amicably terminated which had become so serious, at the period of my inauguration, as to require me, on the 17th April 1857, to direct our minister to demand his passports and return to the U. S.

Under this convention the gov't of New Granada has specially acknowledged itself to be responsible to our citizens "for damages which were caused by the riot at Panama on the 15th April 1856." These claims, together with other claims of our citizens which had been long urged in vain, are referred for adjustment to a board of commissioners. I submit a copy of the convention to Congress, and recommend the legislation necessary to carry it into effect.

COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA.—Persevering efforts have been made for the adjustment of the claims of American citizens against the gov't of Costa Rica, and I am happy to inform you that these have finally prevailed. A convention was signed at the city of San Jose, on the 2d of July last, between the minister resident of the U. S. in Costa Rica and the plenipotentiaries of that republic, referring these claims to a board of commissioners, and providing for the payment of their awards. This convention will be submitted immediately to the Senate for their constitutional action.

The claims of our citizens upon the republic of Nicaragua have not yet been provided for by treaty, although diligent efforts for this purpose have been made by our minister resident to that republic. These are still continued, with a fair prospect of success.

MEXICO.—Our relations with Mexico remain in a most unsatisfactory condition. In my last two annual messages I discussed extensively the subject of these relations, and do not now propose to repeat at length the facts and arguments then presented. They proved conclusively that our citizens residing in Mexico and our merchants trading thereto had suffered a series of wrongs and outrages such as we have never patiently borne from any other nation. For these our successive ministers, invoking the faith of treaties, had, in the name of their country, persistently demanded redress and indemnification, but without the slightest effect. Indeed, so confident had the Mexican authorities become of our patient endurance, that they universally believed they might commit these outrages upon American citizens with absolute impunity. Thus wrote our minister in 1856, and expressed the opinion that "nothing but a manifestation of the power of the gov't, and of its purpose to punish these wrongs, will avail."

Afterwards, in 1857, came the adoption of a new constitution for Mexico, the election of a President and Congress under its provisions, and the inauguration of the President. Within one short month, however, this President was expelled from the capital by a rebellion in the army, and the supreme power of the republic was assigned to General Zuloaga. This usurper was in his turn soon compelled to retire and give place to General Miramon.

Under the constitution which had thus been adopted, Senor Juarez, as chief justice of the Supreme Court, became the lawful President of the Republic; and it was for the maintenance of the constitution and his authority derived from it that the civil war commenced, and still continues to be prosecuted.

Throughout the year 1858 the constitutional party grew stronger and stronger. In the previous history of Mexico a successful military revolution at the capital had almost universally been the signal for submission throughout the republic. Not so on the present occasion. A majority of the citizens persistently sustained the constitutional gov't. When this was recognised in April, 1859, by the gov't of the U. S., its authority extended over a large majority of the Mexican States and people, including Vera Cruz and all the other important sea ports of the republic. From that period our commerce with Mexico began to revive, and the constitutional gov't has afforded it all the protection in their power.

Meanwhile, the gov't of Miramon still held sway at the capital and over the surrounding country, and continued its outrages against the few American citizens who still had the courage to remain within its power. To cap the climax: After the battle of Tacubaya, in April, 1859, Gen. Marquez ordered three citizens of the U. S., two of them physicians, to be spized in the hospital at that place, taken out and shot, without crime and without trial. This was done, notwithstanding our unfortunate countrymen were at the moment engaged in the holy cause of affording relief to the soldiers of both parties who had been wounded in the battle, without making any distinction between them.

The time had arrived, in my opinion, when this gov't was bound to exert its power to avenge and redress the wrongs of our citizens and to afford them protection in Mexico. The interposing obstacle was that the portion of the country under the sway of Miramon could not be reached without passing over territory under the jurisdiction of the constitutional gov't. Under these circumstances, I deemed it my duty to recommend to Congress, in my last annual message, the employment of a sufficient military force to penetrate into the interior, where the gov't of Miramon was to be found, with, or, if need be, without the consent of the Juarez gov't, though it was not doubted that this consent could be obtained. Never have I had a clearer conviction on any subject than of the justice as well as wisdom of such a policy. No other alternative was left, except the entire abandonment of our fellow-citizens who had gone to Mexico, under the faith of treaties, to the systematic injustice, cruelty, and oppression of Miramon's gov't. Besides, it is almost certain that the simple authority to employ this force would of itself have accomplished all our objects without striking a single blow. The constitutional gov't would then ere this have been established at the city of Mexico, and would have been ready and willing, to the extent of its ability, to do us justice.

In addition—and I deem this a most important consideration—European gov'ts would have been deprived of all pretext to interfere in the territorial and domestic concerns of Mexico. We should thus have been relieved from the obligation of resisting, even by force, should this become necessary, any attempt by these gov'ts to deprive our neighboring republic of portions of her territory; a duty from which we could not shrink without abandoning the traditional and established policy of the American people. I am happy to observe, that, firmly relying upon the justice and good faith of these gov'ts, there is no present danger that such a contingency will happen.

Having discovered that my recommendations would not be sustained by Congress, the next alternative was to accomplish, in some degree, if possible, the same objects by treaty stipulations with the constitutional gov't. Such treaties were accordingly concluded by our late able and excellent minister to Mexico, and on the 4th Jan'y last were submitted to the Senate for ratification. As these have not yet received the final action of that body, it would be improper for me to present a detailed statement of their provisions. Still I may be permitted to express the opinion in advance that they are calculated to promote the agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial interests of the country, and to secure our just influence with an adjoining republic as to whose fortunes and fate we can never feel indifferent; whilst at the same time they provide for the payment of a considerable amount towards the satisfaction of the claims of our injured fellow-citizens.

KANSAS AND UTAH.—At the period of my inauguration I was confronted in Kansas by a revolutionary gov't, existing under what is called the Topeka constitution. Its avowed object was to subdue the territorial gov't by force, and to inaugurate what was called the Topeka gov't in its stead. To accomplish this object an extensive military organization was formed and its command entrusted to the most violent revolutionary leaders. Under these circumstances, it became my imperative duty to exert the whole constitutional power of the Executive to prevent the flames of civil war from again raging in Kansas, which, in the excited state of the public mind, both North and South, might have extended into the neighboring States.

The hostile parties in Kansas had been inflamed against each other by emissaries both from the North and the South, to a degree of maligunity without parallel in our history. To prevent actual collision, and to assist the civil magistrates in enforcing the laws, a strong detachment of the army was stationed in the Territory, ready to aid the marshal and his deputies, when lawfully called upon, as a *posse comitatus* in the execution of civil and criminal process.

Still, the troubles in Kansas could not have been permanently settled without an election by the people. The ballot-box is the surest arbiter of disputes among freemen. Under this conviction, every proper effort was employed to induce the hostile parties to vote at the election of delegates to frame a State constitution, and afterwards at the election to decide whether Kansas should be a slave or a free State. The insurgent party refused to vote at either, lest this might be considered a recognition on their part of the territorial gov't established by Congress. A better spirit, however, seemed soon after to prevail, and the two parties met face to face at the third election, held on the first Monday of January 1858, for members of the legislature and State officers under the Lecompton constitution. The result was the triumph of the anti-slavery party at the polls. This decision of the ballot box proved clearly that this party were in the majority, and removed the danger of civil war. From that time we have heard little or nothing of the Topeka gov't; and all serious danger of revolutionary troubles in Kansas was then at an end.

The Lecompton constitution, which had been thus recognised at this State election by the votes of both political parties in Kansas, was transmitted to me with the request that I should present it to Congress. This I could not have refused to do without violating my clearest and strongest convictions of duty. The constitution, and all the proceedings which preceded and followed its formation, were fair and regular on their face. I then believed, and experience has proved, that the interests of the people of Kansas would have been best consulted by its admission as a State into the Union, especially as the majority, within a brief period, could have amended the constitution according to their will and pleasure. If fraud existed in all or any of these proceedings, it was not for the President, but for Congress, to investigate and determine the question of fraud, and what ought to be its consequences. If, at the two first elections, the majority refused to vote, it cannot be pretended that this refusal to exercise the elective franchise could invalidate an election fairly held unfer lawful authority, even if they had not subsequently voted at the third election. It is true that the whole constitution had not been submitted to the people, as I always desired; but the precedents are numerous of the admission of States into the Union without such submission.

It would not comport with my present purpose to review the proceedings of Congress upon the Lecompton constitution. It is sufficient to observe that their final action has removed the last vestige of serious revolutionary troubles. The desperate band recently assembled, under a notorious outlaw, in the southern portion of the Territory, to resist the execution of the laws and to plunder peaceful citizens, will, I doubt not, be speedily subdued and brought to justice.

Had I treated the Lecompton constitution as a nullity and refused to transmit it to Congress, it is not difficult to imagine, whilst recalling the position of the country at that moment, what would have been the disastrous consequences, both in and out of the Territory, from such a dereliction of duty on the part of the Executive.

Peace has also been restored within the Territory of Utah, which, at the commencement of my Admfnistration, was in a state of open rebellion. This was the more dangerous, as the people, animated by a fanatical spirit and entrenched within their distant mountain fastnesses, might have made a long and formidable resistance. Cost what it might, it was necessary to bring them into subjection to the Constitution and the laws. Sound policy, therefore, as well as humanity, required that this object should, if possible, be accomplished without the effusion of blood. This could only be effected by sending a military force into the Territory sufficiently strong to convince the people that resistance would be hopeless, and at the same time to offer them a pardon for past offences on condition of immediate submission to the Gov't. This policy was pursued with eminent success: and the only cause for regret is the heavy expenditure required to march a large detachment of the army to that remote region and to furnish it subsistence. Utah is now comparatively peaceful and quiet, and the military force has been withdrawn, except that portion of it necessary to keep the Indians in check and to protect the emigrant trains on their way to our Pacific possessions.

FINANCES.—In my first annual message I promised to employ my best exertions, in co-operation with Congress, to reduce the expenditures of the Gov't within the limits of a wise and judicious economy. An overflowing treasury had produced habits of prodigality and extravagance which could only be gradually corrected. The work required both time and patience. I applied myself diligently to this task from the beginning, and was aided by the able and energetic efforts of the Heads of the different Executive Departments. The result of our labors in this good cause did not appear in the sum total of our expenditures for the first two years, mainly in consequence of the extraordinary expenditure necessarily incurred in the Utah expedition, and the very large amount of the contingent expenses of Congress during this period. These greatly exceeded the pay and mileage of the members. For the year ending 30th June 1858, whilst the pay and mileage amounted to $1,490,214, the contingent expenses rose to $2,093,809 79, and for the year ending 30th June 1859, whilst the pay and mileage amounted to $859,093 66, the contingent expenses amounted to $1,431,565 78. I am happy, however, to be able to inform you that during the last fiscal year ending on the 30th June 1860, the total expenditures of the Gov't in all its branches—legislative, executive, and judicial—exclusive of the public debt, were reduced to the sum of $55,402,465 46. This conclusively appears from the books of the Treasury. In the year ending on the 30th June 1858, the total expenditure, exclusive of the public debt, amounted to $71,901,129 77, and that for the year ending 30th June 1859, to $66,346,226 13. Whilst the books of the Treasury show an actual expenditure of $59,848,474 72 for the year ending on the 30th June 1860, including $1,040,667 71 for the contingent expenses of Congress, there must be deducted from this amount the sum of $4,296,009 26, with the interest upon it of $150,000, appropriated by the act of 15th February 1860, "for the purpose of supplying the deficiency in the revenues and defraying the expenses of the P. O. Dep't for the year ending 30th June 1859." This sum, therefore, justly chargeable to the year 1859, must be deducted from the sum of $59,848,474 72, in order to ascertain the expenditure for the year ending on the 30th June 1860, which leaves a balance for the expenditures of that year of $55,402,465 46. The interest on the public debt, including Treasury notes for the same fiscal year ending on the 30th June 1860, amounted to $3,177,814 62, which, added to the above sum of $55,402,465 46, makes the aggregate of $58,579,780 08.

It ought in justice to be observed that several of the estimates from the departments for the year ending 30th June 1860, were reduced by Congress below what was and still is deemed compatible with the public interest. Allowing a liberal margin of $2,500,000 for this reduction, and for other causes, it may be safely asserted that the sum of $61,000,000, or at the most $62,000,000, is amply sufficient to administer the Gov't and to pay the interest on the public debt, unless contingent events should hereafter render extraordinary expenditures necessary.

This result has been attained in a considerable degree by the care exercised by the appropriate departments in entering into public contracts. I have myself never interfered with the award of any such contract except in a single case with the Colonization Society, deeming it advisable to cast the whole responsibility in each case on the proper head of the department, with the general instruction that these contracts should always be given to the lowest and best bidder. It has ever been my opinion that public contracts are not a legitimate source of patronage to be conferred upon personal or political favorites; but that in all such cases a public officer is bound to act for the gov't as a prudent individual would act for himself.

AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE, &c.—It is with great satisfaction I communicate the fact, that, since the date of my last Annual Message, not a single slave has been imported into the U. S. in violation of the laws prohibiting the African slave trade. This statement is founded upon a thorough examination and investigation of the subject. Indeed, the spirit which prevailed some time since among a portion of our fellow-citizens in favor of this trade seems to have entirely subsided.

I also congratulate you upon the public sentiment which now exists against the crime of setting on foot military expeditions within the limits of the U. States, to proceed from thence and make war upon the people of unoffending States, with whom we are at peace. In this respect a happy change has been effected since the commencement of my Administration. It surely ought to be the prayer of every Christian and patriot, that such expeditions may never again receive countenance in our country or depart from our shores.

It would be a useless repetition to do more than refer, with earnest commendation, to my former recommendations in favor of the Pacific railroad—of the grant of power to the President to employ the naval force in the vicinity, for the protection of the lives and property of our fellow citizens passing in transit over the different Central American routes, against sudden and lawless outbreaks and depredations; and also to protect American merchant vessels, their crews and cargoes, against violent and unlawful seizure and confiscation in the ports of Mexico and the South American republics, when these may be in a disturbed and revolutionary condition. It is my settled conviction, that without such a power we do not afford that protection to those engaged in the commerce of the country which they have a right to demand.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—I again recommend to Congress the passage of a law in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution, appointing a day certain, previous to the 4th March, in each year of an odd number, for the election of representatives throughout all the States. A similar power has already been exercised, with general approbation, in the appointment of the same day throughout the Union for holding the election of electors for President and Vice President of the U. S. My attention was directed to this subject from the fact, that the 35th Congress terminated on the 3d March, 1859, without making the necessary appropriation for the service of the Post Office Department. I was then forced to consider the best remedy for this omission, and an immediate call of the present Congress was the natural resort. Upon inquiry, however, I ascertained that 15 out of the 33 States composing the Confederacy were without representatives, and that, consequently, these fifteen States would be disfranchised by such a call. These fifteen States will be in the same condition on the 4th March next. Ten of them cannot elect representatives, according to existing State laws, until different periods, extending from the beginning of August next until the months of October and November.

In my last message I gave warning that, in a time of sudden and alarming danger, the salvation of our institutions might depend upon the power of the President immediately to assemble a full Congress, to meet the emergency.

TARIFF.—It is now quite evident that the financial necessities of the gov't will require a modification of the tariff during your present session, for the purpose of increasing the revenue. In this aspect, I desire to reiterate the recommendation contained in my last two annual messages, in favor of imposing specific instead of *ad valorem* duties on all imported articles to which these can be properly applied. From long observation and experience I am convinced that specific duties are necessary, both to protect the revenue and to secure to our manufacturing interests that amount of incidental encouragement which unavoidably results from a revenue tariff.

As an abstract proposition it may be admitted that ad valorem duties would, in theory, be the most just and equal. But if the experience of this and of all other commercial nations has demonstrated that such duties cannot be assessed and collected without great frauds upon the revenue, then it is the part of wisdom to resort to specific duties. Indeed, from the very nature of an ad valorem duty, this must be the result. Under it the inevitable consequence is, that foreign goods will be entered at less than their true value. The treasury will, therefore, lose the duty on the difference between their real and fictitious value, and to this extent we are defrauded.

The temptations which ad valorem duties present to a dishonest importer are irresistible. His object is to pass his goods through the custom house at the very lowest valuation necessary to save them from confiscation. In this he too often succeeds in spite of the vigilance of the revenue officers. Hence the resort to false invoices, one for the purchaser and another for the custom house, and to other expedients to defraud the gov't. The honest importer produces his invoice to the collector, stating the actual price at which he purchased the articles abroad. Not so the dishonest importer and the agent of the foreign manufacturer. And here it may be observed that a very large proportion of the manufactures imported from abroad are consigned for sale to commission merchants who are mere agents employed by the manufacturers. In such cases no actual sale has been made to fix their value. The foreign manufacturer, if he be dishonest, prepares an invoice of the goods, not at their actual value, but at the very lowest rate necessary to escape detection. In this manner the dishonest importer and the foreign manufacturer enjoy a decided advantage over the honest merchant. They are thus enabled to undersell the fair trader, and drive him from the market. In fact, the operation of this system has already driven from the pursuits of honorable commerce many of that class of regular and conscientious merchants, whose character, throughout the world, is the pride of our country.

The remedy for these evils is to be found in specific duties, so far as this may be practicable. They dispense with any inquiry at the custom-house into the actual cost or value of the article, and it pays the precise amount of duty previously fixed by law. They present no temptations to the appraisers of foreign goods, who receive but small salaries, and might, by undervaluation in a few cases, render themselves independent.

Besides, specific duties best conform to the requisition in the Constitution that "no preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one State over those of another." Under our ad valorem system such preferences are to some extent inevitable, and complaints have often been made that the spirit of this provision has been violated by a lower appraisement of the same articles at one port than at another.

An impression strangely enough prevails to some extent that specific duties are necessarily protective duties. Nothing can be more fallacious. Great Britain grows in free trade, and yet her whole revenue from imports is at the present moment collected under a system of specific duties. It is a striking fact in this connection that, in the commercial treaty of 23d January 1860, between France and England, one of the articles provides that the ad valorem duties which it imposes shall be converted into specific duties within six months from its date, and these are to be ascertained by making an average of the prices for six months previous to that time. The reverse of the proposition would be nearer to the truth, because a much larger amount of revenue would be collected by merely converting the ad valorem duties of a tariff into equivalent specific duties. To this extent the revenue would be increased, and in the same proportion the specific duty might be diminished.

Specific duties would secure to the American manufacturer the incidental protection to which he is fairly entitled under a revenue tariff, and to this surely no person would object. The framers of the existing tariff have gone further, and in a liberal spirit have discriminated in favor of large and useful branches of our manufactures, not by raising the rate of duty upon the importation of similar articles from abroad, but what is the same in effect, by admitting articles free of duty which enter into the composition of their fabrics.

Under the present system it has been often truly remarked, that this incidental protection decreases when the manufacturer needs it most, and increases when he needs it least, and constitutes a sliding scale which always operates against him. The revenues of the country are subject to similar fluctuation. Instead of approaching a steady standard, as would be the case under a system of specific duties, they sink and rise with the sinking and rising prices of articles in foreign countries. It would not be difficult for Congress to arrange a system of specific duties which would afford additional stability both to our revenue and our manufactures, and without injury or injustice to any interest of the country. This might be accomplished by ascertaining the average value of any given article for a series of years at the place of exportation, and by simply converting the rate of ad valorem duty upon it which might be deemed necessary for revenue purposes, into the form of a specific duty. Such an arrangement could not injure the consumer. If he should pay a greater amount of duty one year, this would be counterbalanced by a lesser amount the next, and in the end the aggregate would be the same.

I desire to call your immediate attention to the present condition of the Treasury, so ably and clearly presented by the Secretary in his report to Congress; and to recommend that measures be promptly adopted, to enable it to discharge its pressing obligations. The other recommendations of the report are well worthy of your favorable consideration.

I herewith transmit to Congress the reports of the Secretaries of War, of the Navy, of the Interior, and of the Postmaster General. The recommendations and suggestions which they contain are highly valuable, and deserve your careful attention.

The report of the Postmaster General details the circumstances under which Cornelius Vanderbilt, on my request, agreed, in the month of July last, to carry the ocean mails between our Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Had he not thus acted, this important intercommunication must have been suspended, at least for a season. The P. M. General had no power to make him any other compensation than the postages on the mail matter which he might carry. It was known, at the time, that these postages would fall far short of an adequate compensation, as well as of the sum which the same service had previously cost the gov't. Mr. Vanderbilt, in a commendable spirit, was willing to rely upon the justice of Congress to make up the deficiency, and I therefore recommend that an appropriation may be granted for this purpose.

I should do great injustice to the Attorney General, were I to omit the mention of his distinguished services in the measures adopted and prosecuted by him for the defence of the gov't against numerous and unfounded claims to land in California, purporting to have been made by the Mexican gov't previous to the treaty of cession. The successful opposition to these claims has saved to the U. S. public property worth many millions of dollars, and to individuals holding title under them to at least an equal amount.

It has been represented to me, from sources which I deem reliable, that the inhabitants in several portions of Kansas have been reduced nearly to a state of starvation, on account of the almost total failure of their crops, whilst the harvests in every other portion of the country have been abundant. The prospect before them for the approaching winter is well calculated to enlist the sympathies of every heart. The destitution appears to be so general that it cannot be relieved by private contributions, and they are in such indigent circumstances as to be unable to purchase the necessaries of life for themselves. I refer the subject to Congress. If any constitutional measure for their relief can be devised I would recommend its adoption.

I cordially commend to your favorable regard the interests of the people of this District. They are eminently entitled to your consideration, especially since, unlike the people of the States, they can appeal to no gov't except that of the Union.

JAMES BUCHANAN.

WASHINGTON CITY, 3d Dec. 1860.

MEETING IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

At an adjourned meeting of the citizens of Cumberland county, held at the Court House in the town of Fayetteville, the following proceedings were had: Alex. Johnson, Sr., as Chairman, having expressed a desire no longer to serve the meeting in that capacity, on motion of D. G. McRae, Esq., a committee of five was appointed to report permanent officers for the Convention, which committee consisted of the following persons, to-wit: D. G. McRae, Jas. W. Strange, Wm. McL. McKay, David Murphy and Neill McDugald, who after consultation reported the following as permanent officers of the same: Hon. Jesse G. Shepherd, President; Dan'l McDiarmid and Joel Williams, Vice Pres'ts; Jas. C. Dobbin and J. A. Pemberton, Secretaries.

The Convention was then duly organized. The first business before the Convention being announced as the report of a Committee appointed at a former meeting, it was moved by M. J. McDuffie, that by reason of informality in the appointment of said Committee the same be discharged, and that the President do now appoint a committee consisting of one from each Captain's District to draft resolutions for the action of the Convention; which motion being carried, the President appointed the following gentlemen to compose said committee:

B. R Huske, Peter Munroe, Duncan Murchison, Neill McDugald, Alex. R. Smith, Wm. G. McDonald, Wm. Cade, David Murphy, Wm. Alderman, Jas. W. Strange, B. W. Robinson, Charles D. Nixon.

On motion of Maj. Jno. H. Cook, the Court House being insufficient to accommodate the Convention, it was adjourned to meet forthwith at Farmers' Hall.

The Resolutions of sundry District meetings having been offered, were, on motion, laid on the table.

It being announced that the committee appointed to draft resolutions were ready to report, it was moved and carried that the report be received. The committee, through their Chairman, B. R. Huske, reported the following Preamble and Resolutions:

WHEREAS: The recent election has resulted in the success of a sectional party whose past history is written in a determined and persistent aggression upon the interests of the South, and whose avowed policy is totally inconsistent with the preservation of our most sacred rights, obtained by force of arms and solemnly guarantied to us by a Constitution, binding alike upon the whole country:

Therefore, be it Resolved, That the election of Abraham Lincoln, the candidate of this party, to the Presidency of the United States, should be productive of serious consideration and unceasing vigilance upon the part of the South, and although not in itself cause for the dissolution of the Union, yet any attempt upon his part to carry out the policy of his party, will meet with our most determined resistance.

Resolved, That while the Union of these States is dear to us as a heritage bequeathed us by our forefathers, dear to us by every tie which can bind a people to a government, best for us as a nation, and to mankind as an example, so long as its terms are faithfully adhered to; yet that our lives, our liberties, and our honor are dearer to us, and for the preservation of these we must, if the direful necessity be forced upon us, surrender our adherence to it.

Resolved, That hoping and believing that a portion of our fellow-citizens of the Northern States love the Union as well as ourselves and are not lost to all sense of justice and humanity, we are willing to make every appeal to their good sense and patriotism to remove the causes of our past differences and present disturbances; *but* that we are *not* willing that the present crisis shall pass away without a perfect understanding as to what we are to expect in future, and a definite settlement of the whole slavery question.

Resolved, That we recommend to the Legislature of North Carolina, the calling of a State Convention to take into consideration our entire Federal Relations, at as early a day as practicable.

A minority report of Wm. Cade and Charles D. Nixon was offered and received, as follows:

WHEREAS, The present state of the country demands expression of public opinion, and it being a privilege guaranteed under the Bill of Rights, and consecrated in the Revolutionary struggle, for any portion of the people to meet together and express their sentiments and consult for the common good, Therefore,

Resolved 1st, That the repeated acts of aggression on the part of a purely sectional party of the Northern States on the rights of the South, the total disregard of the fugitive Slave Law, and the election of Atraham Lincoln to the office of President of the United States, requires on the part of the Legislature and people of the State an immediate preparation for the defence of the rights of North Carolina.

Resolved 2d, That the Constitution of the United States is a compact of sovereign, independent States, and that the right of secession exists whenever it is necessary to protect the property of persons from legislation, or when there is a failure on the part of Congress to recognize and secure to the Southern States their rights under the Constitution.

Resolved 3d, That we approve, especially, of that part of the Governor's message on federal relations, to wit: A consultation with the Southern States, and a convention of the people of this State, the reorganization of the Militia, and the formation of a corps of ten thousand volunteers with sufficient appropriation to furnish the necessary arms and equipments.

Resolved, 4th. That North Carolina, in the bosom of whose sons first burned the fires of liberty and the State which proclaimed the first declaration of independence, will be the last to yield her rights or abjectly submit to the domination of the Black Republican party.

It was moved by Neill McKay, that the minority report be received as a substitute for the report of the committee; which motion was not agreed to.

It was then moved that the report of the committee be adopted. Pending this motion Neill McKay offered the following Resolution as an amendment to the same, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That we recommend a re-organization of the Militia, and the formation of volunteer corps with a sufficient appropriation for arms and equipments, if in the opinion of the Legislature the same is necessary.

The report of the committee as thus amended, after sundry motions to further amend the same, which were voted down, was adopted.

On motion of D. G. McRae, Esq., the meeting adjourned.

J. G. SHEPHERD, Pres't.
D. McDIARMID,
JOEL WILLIAMS,
Vice Presidents.

JAS. C. DOBBIN, Jr., } Sec's.
J. A. PEMBERTON, }

COTTON RECEIPTS.—1,197,927 bales, against 1,377,949 bales last year. Decrease, 180,462.

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 6, 1860.

THE COUNTY MEETING.—The meeting on Tuesday last was probably the largest county meeting ever held here. The resolutions adopted embody the sentiments of the moderate men of both parties—of those who desire to preserve the Union if that can be done consistently with justice and honor. The resolutions of the secessionists were rejected very decidedly, as was every movement in favor of an endorsement of Gov. Ellis's late message. A number of persons engaged in the discussion, which was limited to five minutes speeches, except in the cases of the movers of the two sets of resolutions, B. R. Huske Esq. of the majority and Neill McKay, Esq. of the minority, who were not restricted as to time, and spoke each nearly an hour. The meeting, though pervaded by a deep feeling, was in the main orderly, owing doubtless in a great measure to the urbanity and familiarity with the duties of the chair, of the presiding officer, Hon. J. G. Shepherd, and to the confidence reposed in him by both parties.

ROBESON COUNTY UNION MEETING.—We have received a verbal message from a friend in Robeson county in regard to the publication of the proceedings of the late citizens' meeting in that county. We would cheerfully have published the proceedings if they had been sent to us; but they have not come to hand.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.—Our exchange papers furnish the particulars of numerous meetings in this State on the present condition of the country.

That in Raleigh on Saturday evening was addressed by Henry W. Miller and Hon. Z. B. Vance. The resolutions, introduced by W. W. Holden, Esq. as chairman of a committee, are conservative.

At Charlotte, the resolutions, by Gen. Young, chairman, recommend a State Convention, for the purpose, primarily, of preserving the Union, if practicable; and secondarily, if not practicable, to adopt measures for the protection of our rights.

SENSIBLE CONCLUSIONS.—The Charlotte Democrat, replying to some intimations that it is not strong enough in favor of secession, concludes as follows:—

"If any one expects us to advise immediate secession, without deliberation and without the co-operation of the Southern States, he will certainly be disappointed. And if any one expects us to show our devotion to Southern rights by threats and menaces, he, too, will be disappointed. As a native and citizen of North Carolina, we expect to abide by the decision of a Convention of her people, whether it is in accordance with our notions of right or not. But what that Convention ought to do, we shall, at present, leave to older and wiser heads to say. If a Convention says North Carolina should withdraw from the Union immediately, we are ready; if it says wait, we are for waiting. We intend to take things coolly anyhow, though we are anxious that such a course shall be pursued as will unite the South in action."

PERSONAL LIBERTY BILLS.—The Legislature of Vermont rejected a bill to repeal the "Personal Liberty act" of that State, by a vote of 125 to 58. The act was passed in 1843, seven years before the passage of the fugitive slave law in 1850, and of course without any reference to it. This decision is deeply to be deplored and complained of; but there are two encouraging signs connected with it, 1st, that 25 Republicans voted for the repeal, showing that there is an awakening even in that party; and 2dly, that a committee was afterwards appointed to inquire whether the law was unconstitutional, with a view to its repeal, if so, at the next session.

BROOKS AND SUMNER.—It may be doubted if the country will for many years feel the last of the evils resulting from the attack of Brooks upon Sumner in the Senate chamber. One of those effects, of a notable character, is stated in a late Boston Traveller, viz: that a bill to repeal the Massachusetts "personal liberty bill" was before the Legislature of that State and had passed one branch by a majority of 15 votes, when the news of Brooks's assault arrived and produced such indignation that the bill to repeal was rejected. But for that attack, Massachusetts would have repealed the offensive and unconstitutional law, (as she ought to have done in spite of it,) and probably the other States would have followed her example, and the country might never have arrived at that deplorable state of enmity that now exists. We have no doubt, also, that Lincoln's election is directly traceable to that assault, for it alone made half a million of Republicans—so a friend at the North assured us last Summer.

LARGE TURNIPS.—Jas. N. Holt, Esq. of Alamance county, has presented us with a Turnip weighing 8 lbs. which he informs us is a fair sample of the growth in several acres. A valuable crop, truly.

From Boston.—A John Brown meetng was called by abolitionists on Monday last at the Masonic Temple. The Temple was taken possession of by the Union men, who passed resolutions denouncing John Brown, justifying his execution, and lauding Virginia for the act. Fred Douglas, Redpath, Frank Sanborn, and other well known Abolitionists, vainly endeavored to be heard.

Lincoln's Administration.—A letter from a Democratic gentleman of Springfield to a friend in Virginia assures him in the most earnest manner that the South has nothing to fear from the administration of Lincoln. He says that he knows Lincoln well, and as a friend of the South and a friend of the country, he feels it his duty to express the firm conviction that Lincoln's administration will be national, patriotic, and give no just cause of offence to any section. The Springfield writer is a gentleman of the highest personal character, and a life-long Democrat.

Baltimore American.

MARRIED,

At the residence of the bride's father, on Tuesday evening, the 27th ult., by David D. Allen, Esq., Mr. GEORGE M. SUMMERELL, of Halifax county, to Miss HATTIE CLAY ROBESON, daughter of William B. Robeson, of Brunswick county, N. C.

DIED,

In this town, on Monday night last, 3d inst., AGNES, daughter of the late Thos J. Anderson, in the 18th year of her age. Her weight when in health was over 400 pounds.

In Robeson County, on the 23d of Nov., ABNER H. DAFFRON, youngest son of Geo. M. and Theinah Daffron, formerly of Chatham county, N. C.

Carolinian please copy

In Columbus county, N. C., on the 30th ult., Mr. JAMES M. JONES, aged 57 years.

THE EXERCISES OF THE BUFFALO MALE AND FEMALE SCHOOLS WILL BE OPENED TUESDAY, JANUARY 1st 1861.

TO those who will favor us with their patronage, we would say, no pains are spared for the intellectual, moral and religious advancement of those who are placed under our care.

Being in a quiet and moral community of farmers, there are as few of the allurements of vice as are found in any situation.

Buffalo is two miles West of Jonesboro'.

Students coming on the Fayetteville & W. R. R. will be brought over free of charge, if they will let us know when to meet them.

At least fifty students can be accommodated with board, within one and a half miles of the School Rooms, at $40 per Session of five months.

Eight or ten young Ladies can board in the family of the Principals.

Tuition as heretofore, viz: $8, $10, $12 50, and $16, according to advancement.

One-half of board and tuition due at the commencement, and the other at the middle of the Session.

D. McINTYRE & LADY, Principals.

Buffalo, Nov. 29. 78-6t

Carthage Male and Female Institute.

JAS. D. McIVER, Prin. of Male Department.
Mrs